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THE ECHO

HALIBURTON COUNTY

ONTARIO'S BEST
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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2003 OCNA AWARDS
2004 OCNA AWARDS

Tuesday, January 4, 2005
Vol. 122 No. 2
\$1 including GST

Fleming grad killed in accident Sunday

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Friends of Sabrina Ford are devastated that the woman who could light up a room with her smile was killed in a car accident near Minden on Sunday night. "She was absolutely wonderful and I'm not over-exaggerating," says her friend Jesse Cousins. "She was like sunshine in my life. She always made me feel warm."

"She was always smiling," says her landlady Sheila Stackhouse, who travelled the same stretch of treacherous

highway an hour before Ford was killed.

"The roads were dreadful from Orillia to Haliburton," Stackhouse says. "I don't think the road crews could keep up. It was very icy and slushy. If you got off to the side it pulled you right in. You had to hold onto your steering wheel."

The 24-year-old Ecotourism Management graduate was returning to Haliburton from her hometown of St. Catharines when the accident happened around 5:55 on January 2. She had been home for the Christmas break and then came back to Haliburton, where she managed the Buddha Café at Bwana John's clothing store, for a short while before heading back to St. Catharines for New Year's. Cousins said she took her six-month kitten, which she adored with her, so it was probably also in the car.

Not many details about the accident are available from police.

Ford was eastbound on County Road 21 about 5.3 kilometres east of Minden. It appears her Saturn was hit on the side when it collided with a Chev pickup truck driven by 43-year-old Jim Hicks of

See **Sabrina** page 8



DARREN LUM/Echo

New Year's ride

The Percys from Surfer's Paradise, Australia show what fun they had on New Year's Day on Haliburton Forest's dogsled trails. The Percys were visiting the Mildons for the holidays and their holiday also included skiing and tobogganing. With more than 75 km of dogsledding trails, not including the lakes on the property, Haliburton Forest is accepting bookings for participants from ages five and up.

Swept out to sea

Former Highlands resident narrowly escapes death in Thailand

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

It's one thing to know that your son survived the devastating tsunami that swept over lower Thailand; it's another to read his e-mail that describes just how close he came to dying.

Jake and Doris Pothaar of Highland Grove received this e-mail from their 25-year-old son Chris. He was enjoying an idyllic Christmas holiday on the island of Ko Raya, just south of Phuket Island, when the tsunami hit and he was dragged out to sea. Rescued by a Thai man, he is now in a hospital in Bangkok but expects to be released on Friday, when he'll return to Japan to resume his job as an English teacher (despite his parents' entreaties to come home.)

"We're relieved, very relieved, but

we're really feeling sorry for the families that have been torn apart," Doris Pothaar, who has been in daily phone contact with her son, said Monday.

The following is the e-mail that Chris sent to his family on December 26.

Happy Holidays everyone.

I'm in Thailand right now. If you haven't seen the news, and are feeling jealous, you can stop now. First off, I want you to know that I'm fine. But I want to tell this in chronological order, so please indulge me.

It's Boxing Day here in Phuket, but still Christmas in Canada. I have just returned from five blissful days on beautiful Ko Raya [an island south of Phuket]. Scuba diving, gorgeous beaches, incredible food, beach bars, palm trees under a full moon, etc. I phoned my family yes-

terday to tell them how wonderful everything was and realized I didn't have much to talk about. A perfect vacation doesn't leave one with much of interest to say.

However, things have gotten a little more interesting.

We had planned to leave Ko Raya this morning, so I got up early, packed and had a leisurely breakfast. Our boat back to Phuket was to leave at 10:30, so at 10:05, I left the bungalow where I was staying, five minutes inland. I walked down to the main beach to visit Ko Raya Divers, as I had not yet paid for my dives. I carried my cash and passport in a small bag, cinched around my waist under my trousers. When I crested the hill behind the beach, I saw a large puddle at the base of the hill, which had not

See **The water** page 10

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Community responds to families' needs

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

It's a quiet little miracle that takes place every Christmas.

Without actively seeking the public's help, the 4Cs always manages to make sure that low-income families can celebrate the season with a traditional turkey dinner.

This past Christmas, there were 50 more families asking for a food hamper compared to last year and volunteer organizer Ave Petch is confident that when all the bills are tallied, there will be enough money in the bank to cover the costs.

"Usually we come close or just squeak by, and that's what we're hoping for this year, too," she said, taking a break from re-stocking the food bank's empty shelves last week.

It costs about \$20,000 a year to provide all the vouchers and buy the extra food for each hamper. This year, 261 hampers were distributed by volunteers in the days before Christmas; last year, 210 families asked for help.

Petch says she doesn't know why there was such a surge in demand. While this is a time of year when seasonal layoffs are customary, the 4Cs also saw many new faces.

Petch continues to be amazed by the donations that come pouring into the 4Cs. "The whole community is incredible," she says. "I don't think every community is like Haliburton."

However, the need does continue. Every month the food bank helps an average of 60 families and donations are always appreciated. This week she's hoping to get help from high school students who will sort through the truckloads of food donations that came from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

The 4Cs food bank is in the Drag River Municipal Building across from Emmerson Lumber in Haliburton. It shares space with the Lily Ann clothing store.



The water finally flows

In November, Haliburton's "Eh! Team" travelled to Canales, Guatemala, to drill a well for the people in this impoverished village. Unfortunately, they encountered a lot of rock and had to leave home before the well was operational. However, two other members of Living Water International were able to stay behind to continue work on the well. Barry Hart, who organizes the local Living Water volunteer excursions to Guatemala, was thrilled when he received this photo of water pouring out of the new well. The village now has a clean, safe source of water, something most Highlanders take for granted. Hart is organizing another trip in April. If you'd like to give the gift of water to others by participating in the week-long trip or making a donation, please call him at 457-5272 or Mark Bangay at 455-9187.

Province extends water regulation deadline

The province has extended the deadlines for installing new water treatment equipment for small and rural drinking water systems by six to 18 months.

"Small and rural communities that would be affected by these deadlines have expressed concerns about the requirements of the regulation," says Environment Minister Leona Dombrowsky. "As a result, our government responded to these concerns and committed to consulting fully on making the regulation workable."

The Ministry of the Environment met with system owners and operators over the past several months, as did its advisory council on drinking water quality and testing standards. These extensions will allow the minister time to consider additional changes to the regulation based on its findings and those of the council. The council will deliver a report with recommendations early in the new year.

"It is essential that we get this regulation right,"

added Dombrowsky. "We need to make sure that our small communities and rural water system operators can comply with our regulation and maintain public health with safe, clean water."

The Ontario Drinking Water Systems Regulation (O.Reg. 170/03) sets water treatment standards for a wide variety of drinking water systems. Large municipal systems, serving more than 80 per cent of Ontarians, are already required to comply with this regulation.

The deadline extensions, posted to the Environmental Registry for public comment in November and passed by the Ontario Legislature December 16, apply to systems used in places such as community centres, town halls, motels, resorts, campgrounds and mobile home parks.

The amending regulation (O. Reg. 408/04) is available on the legislative website at www.e-laws.gov.on.ca.

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Shoppers empty shelves of shovels

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

One of the continuing retail mysteries in the great white north is why every winter when there is a large snowfall and the white blanket on driveways becomes too thick to drive through, people empty store shelves of shovels.

If one has spent even one winter in Haliburton County then wouldn't they already have a shovel?

"I ask myself that question every year. I've had my shovel for five years. But we've sold double the number this year compared to the same point last year," says Jason Glecoff at V&S.

Perhaps shovels of winters past have been used to beat off intruders. Maybe they get left lying in driveways and get run over. Maybe people can't make it through the snowdrifts to their sheds to retrieve them.

Whatever the truth may be there seems to be a shovel shortage in Haliburton village as the big, the small, the scoops and various other shovel formats fly off the shelves. Doug Olliffe, says they are down to a handful of 200 shovels and most of those are children's shovels. The stock was suppose to have lasted them the entire winter season.

Olliffe says the stock is also running low on ice salt, ice scrapers, windshield washer fluid and other associated merchandise. The other hot ticket item at V&S and Home Hardware has been anything you can slide down a hill on.

Glen Sharpley, at Sharpley's Source for Sports says business is going very well and they have sold a large number of their toboggans.

"Early snow for us is a blessing. It makes a big difference," says Sharpley.

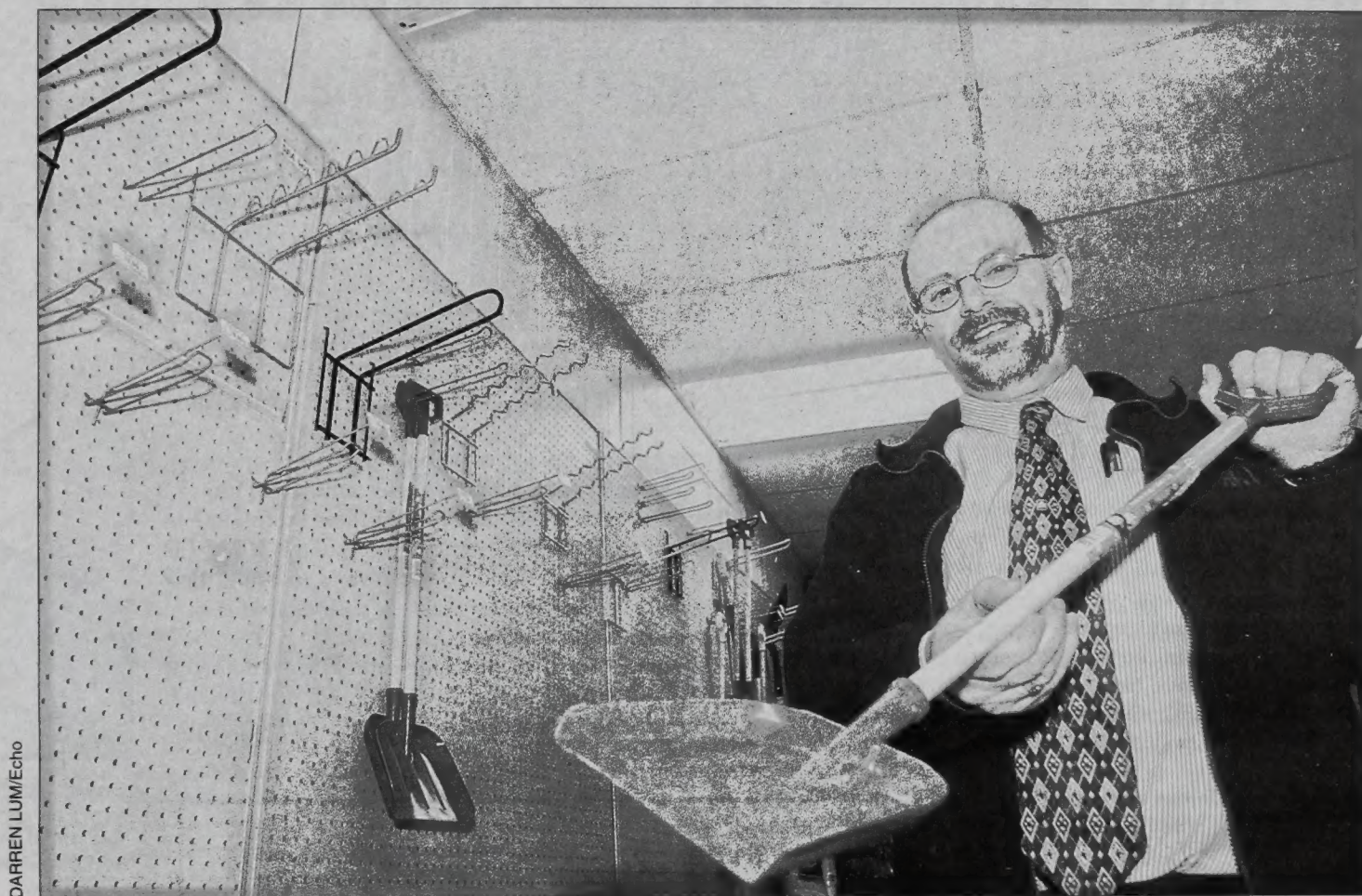
Those people buying shovels might beg to differ but the good news is more shovels are on order and should be arriving at village stores this week.

Parks Canada, union ratify new contract

Parks Canada and the Public Service Alliance of Canada have signed a new collective agreement.

The agreement was reached following two months of rotating strikes across the country. While work never stopped at the Trent Severn Waterway, which is part of Parks Canada, there were protests at the Haliburton TSW facility.

In December, 90 per cent of employees voted in favour of ratifying the new agreement, which will be in effect until August 3, 2007. All unionized employees will receive economic increases of 2.5 per cent retroactive to August 5, 2003, and increases of 2.25 per cent in 2004-2005, 2.4 per cent in 2005-2006, and 2.5 per cent in 2006-2007.



Haliburton Home Hardware's store manager Doug Olliffe holds up one of his last remaining shovels. Olliffe said the store is awaiting more shovels this Thursday since selling most of their stock in the last two weeks. Merchants in the county have a difficult time keeping up with the demand of winter products such as shovels, ice breakers, and windshield wipers.

Scanner scare takes a swipe at local retailers

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

Some local retailers received a scare last Thursday morning when CBC Radio ran a story about how many retailers wouldn't be ready for a change in some UPC bar codes on January 1.

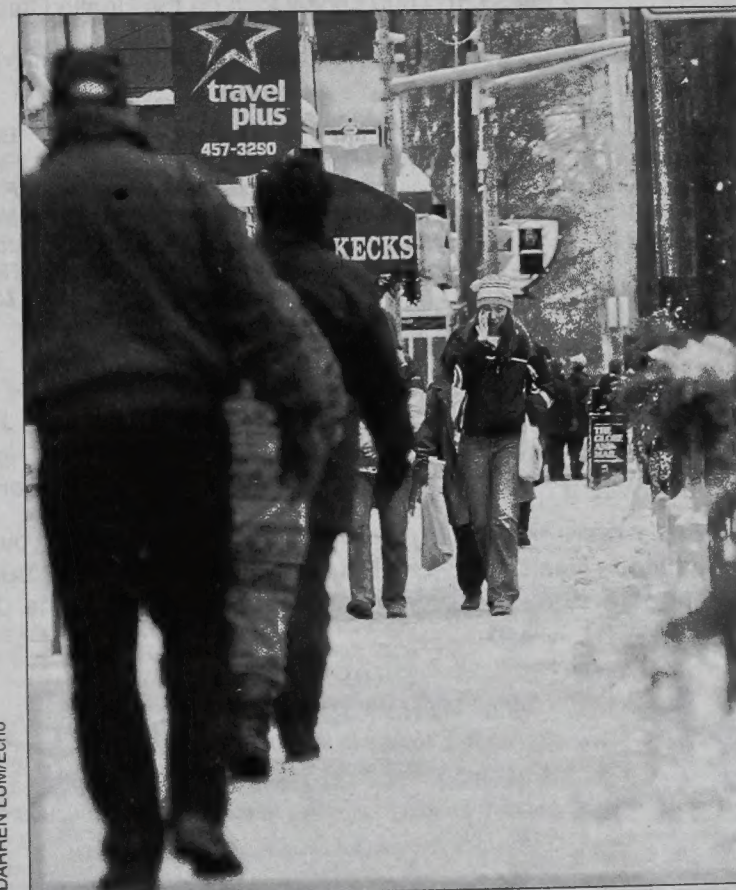
One retailer, who asked not to be named, says she was getting out of the shower when she heard the story and immediately started to panic. She called the company that provides the software for her check-out scanners and was told an update had been made to her equipment to make it 2005 compliant without her knowledge. She says until she found out she almost had a heart attack.

The CBC story said scanners that read information stored in bar codes would not be able to correctly read the codes if the software inside those scanners has not been updated. This could mean incorrect prices could come up or no information at all, causing confusion and delays at checkouts.

North America uses a 12-digit Universal Product Code but much of the rest of the world uses a 13-digit European Article Number. Manufacturers who wanted to ship to European and North American markets wanted one number so a project was launched in 1997 to create a Global Trade Item Number with up to 14 digits.

The project was called Sunrise 2005 and the new codes were scheduled to appear on January 1. The CBC reported the concern that some small businesses would not be prepared and have not invested in the software upgrades, which can be very expensive.

None of the retailers interviewed for this story had even been informed of Sunrise 2005 by companies that provide scanners and software to their business. Kim Emmerson at Emmerson Lumber



DARREN LUM/Echo

was surprised by the question and called his scanner provider, Symbol. He discovered that during routine updates to the system his machines had been altered to become Sunrise 2005 compliant.

He and others have commented that this is a bit like the Y2K scare when no one was sure how many computer systems would accurately turn over in 2000. No one was quite sure when the sun rose on 2005 what the impact of these new UPC symbols will be.

Staff at V&S, Home Hardware and Sharpley's Source For Sports were confident there would not be a problem. Glen Sharpley says they create their own bar codes for most items in the store that fits

into their specific system.

Andy Glecoff, V&S owner, says they have the same system as Emmerson Lumber and he was not aware of the impending change either.

"The system support company is way ahead of us and changes become transparent to us we don't even know they've taken place," says Glecoff.

He says the store has not experienced any problems with scanning since sunrise of 2005.

Large retail chains such as the grocery store chains that own Valu Mart and IGA have been aware of the change and have already made the move to the new software.

Thanks to the companies that supply local stores with scanners, fears that shoppers would face long line ups at the check out counter didn't materialize. The companies had already made changes that would accommodate the new product codes.

What does the future hold for Frost Centre?

Committee hires Huntsville based David Gibson to help it come up with a business plan that will inject new life into facility abandoned by the province

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

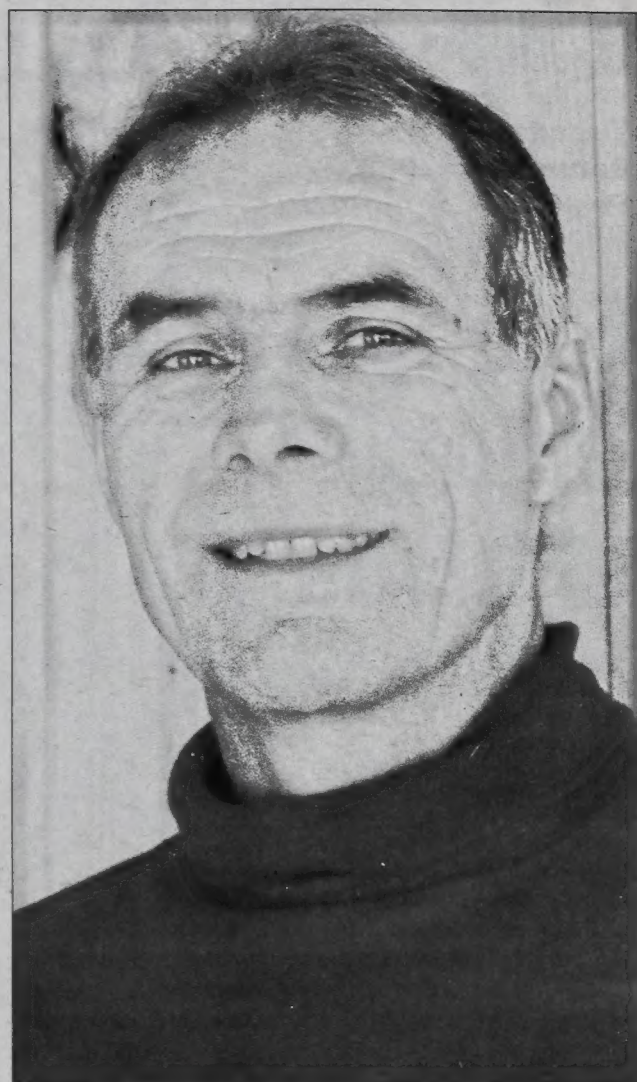
The future of the Frost Centre is "an open book," but David Gibson is optimistic that it will have a happy ending.

"I feel strongly that we have to think about what the new entity will be and not what it was," says the Huntsville consultant who has just been hired by the Frost Centre working committee to help it come up with a new management plan for the natural resources facility. It has been boarded up since July, when the Ministry of Natural Resources announced that teaching about the environment and how to use its resources wisely was no longer a core service.

"It will change for sure," Gibson said in a telephone interview on Thursday. "This is not a battle to get the government to pick it up again. We'll be creating something new that will have shades of the old Frost Centre, but we will be building on its strengths."

Even though he was hired just before Christmas, Gibson doesn't need much time to familiarize himself with the Frost Centre. He worked there from 1989 to 1996 as the education extension co-ordinator. It was his job to encourage professional educators to bring their students of all ages to the Frost, as well as to organize conferences and other events.

His background in outdoor education and team building training extends to Quebec and British Columbia, and he's worked for such organizations as



David Gibson, a Huntsville based consultant, has been hired to draft a business plan for the Frost Centre as the effort to find a new future for the recently closed facility continues.

Outward Bound. He's written for the Canadian Wildlife Federation and Wildlife Canada as well as a curriculum for teaching about species at risk. Since then he has run his own consulting business, David Gibson Learning Associates. One of his current projects is helping to organize a conference in Huntsville on sustainable forestry.

"He has an excellent reputation in outdoor education," says Brian Desbiens, one of the working committee's six volunteer members. "His proposal included an excellent model on how to go about problem solving."

When the committee discussed hiring a facilitator in early December it was felt that since it had less than a year to come up with a business plan, it didn't have the time to meet with each proponent separately. Gibson's job is to research various working models and come up with some ideas of possible partners. He will then cull through these and provide the committee with suggestions.

"We want to cast the net wide at the beginning," he says. "We need help making this successful."

With his background, he says, "I have a good sense of what goes on in the province and beyond in terms of what we can look at."

One of the first places he'll look for ideas is Quebec. There are some outdoor education centres that were once owned by the province and turned over to other organizations. "Twenty-five years later they're still running. They found ways of doing this and diversifying what they have to offer."

He's already talked to some organizations that were dismayed by the province's decision and while they may not be interested in taking over management of the facility, they could certainly be potential clients – as could the provincial government. "It's a question of coming up with a model that's economically feasible. That's the key to the whole thing."

Gibson's first formal meeting with the committee is on January 5 at the county council chambers.



"The Cardinal has merely beauty to give, while we have so much more"

For the seventh year the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation decorates trees located in the front lobbies of the Health Care Facilities with tags sponsored by gifts from our generous supporters. To date this campaign has raised **\$59,396.00**. The proceeds will assist the Foundation to pay off the \$1,100,000 capital loan on the Health Care Facilities.

Thank you to the following generous businesses, groups and individuals:

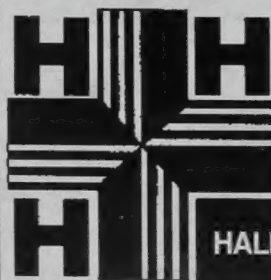
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Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation sincerely thank our Honourary Chairmen for our 2004 "Cardinal Christmas" campaign, **Dr. Norm Bottum** and **Dr. Bert Lauwers**.

If you have *"so much more to give"* this Holiday Season, your gift can be sent to **Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation, Box 1413, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 or Box 30, Minden, ON K0M 2K0** or you can deposit your gift in the donation boxes at the Minden and Haliburton Facilities.



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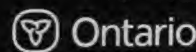
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The government of Ontario is helping kids stay safe from **chicken pox, meningococcal meningitis and pneumococcal disease**. Here's how it works:

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- Vaccines for chicken pox and meningococcal meningitis are now available free for one-year-old children born on or after September 1, 2003.
- Five-year-olds and high-risk people of any age who haven't had chicken pox can also get the free vaccine.
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For more information, talk to your doctor or local public health unit. **Call 1-877-234-4343. TTY 1-800-387-5559.** Or visit **HealthyOntario.com**.

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Give him a wave and see him smile

Keith Robertson wins car from GM dealership

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

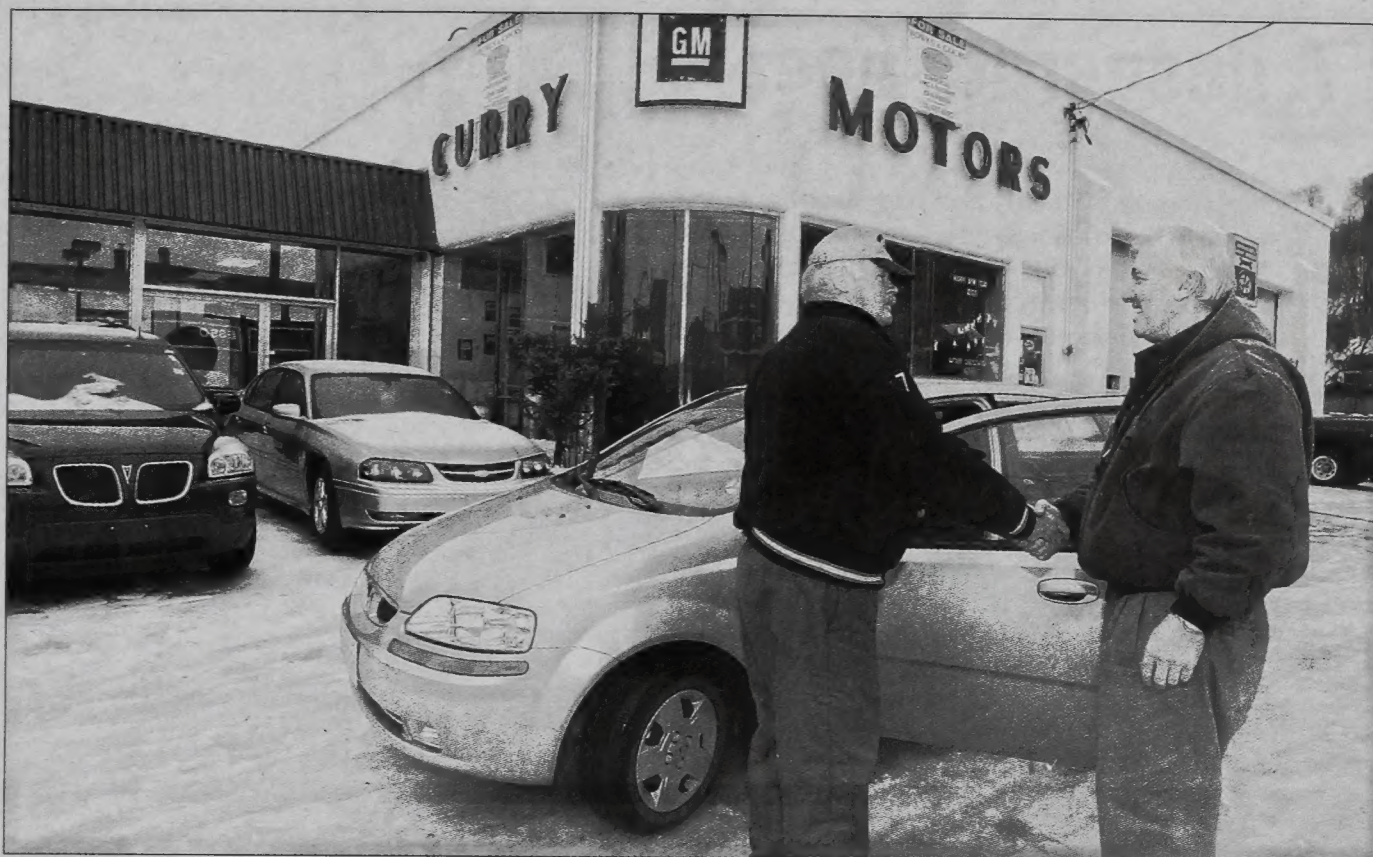
Keith Robertson didn't know what Santa Claus sounded like until he sat in a brand new Chevrolet in the Curry Motors showroom, pushed the On-Star button and heard a voice coming over the car's speakers.

"You've just won a 2005 Wave!"

Robertson thought someone was trying to fool him. Leigh Bull, the Curry Motors salesman, was so excited that "he almost went through the roof."

A week later, Robertson still can't believe his luck. He was one of the 157 Canadians who pushed a button at a GM dealership and won the spunky new car.

"Press the button and you never know what happens," says a smiling Don



DARREN LUM/Echo

GM's On-Star winner Keith Robertson is congratulated again by Don Popple of Curry Motors a few weeks after pressing the button to win his 2005 Wave. Robertson has always owned trucks, but loves his new car.

Popple, one of the owners of the Haliburton dealership.

The week before Christmas hadn't started out so happily for Robertson. His son had just had an accident with the family van. It was one accident too many for the van and the family was now down to one vehicle, which his wife Julie needed to drive to work in Minden.

Robertson went into Curry Motors on December 21 to see if they had a second-

hand vehicle. Bull had him sit in the car that Curry Motors was using to promote the give-away and pushed the On-Star button. The first time he tried it didn't work. "I should go to Ford," Robertson quipped. The second time the friendly On-Star voice told him that he had won a new car.

"We had a hard time convincing him it was legit," Popple says.

Currys had a Wave on the lot so

Robertson was able to drive it home the next day. The following morning, "I said to my wife, 'Julie, look out and see if that thing's still there.'"

The Robertsons' neighbour has a Hummer so they're calling their Wave a humdinger.

"Curry Motors, I can't say enough about them," Robertson says. "They've used me 100 per cent."

Wilberforce bridge closure receives mixed reviews

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports from the December 14 meeting of Highlands East.

Roads superintendent Barry Dunford says they have been receiving calls about the closed bridge on Wilberforce Road. Reeve Keith Tallman says opinion is split on whether the closure is good or bad because some people enjoy not having the through traffic. Clerk Sharon Stoughton-Craig says they once closed the same bridge for a five-year period. Councillor Rick Forget says they have to channel their resources to other projects rather than repairing the bridge.

The closure of the bridge does mean they need a new name for the cut-off portion of the old Wilberforce Road. Stoughton-Craig says the whole area was known as the South Wilberforce Settlement. Dunford asked if he should poll the residents for a name. Councillor

Suzanne Partridge suggested council pick a name and put it on the road. Deputy-reeve Bill Howe suggested they let the 911 office deal with the problem.

Wilberforce Water

A second well drilled for the upgrade to the Wilberforce water system is producing enough water that meets the uranium standards, says Glen Covert, environment and property manager. He says they will need to do a 72-hour pump test and then get the required permits to use the well.

Asphalt Request

Council received and denied a written request to confirm the councillors' stance on whether or not an asphalt plant should be allowed in Highlands East. Partridge says they should not be making a statement until an application has been made for such a plant. Forget says the council already advised the Ministry of Natural Resources that they were

against the installation of an asphalt plant in the Irondale Bark Lake Quarry site and were told it is not their decision to make.

Fire Department

Fire Chief Don Middleton says the new Bell tower is up and operating in Tory Hill and people should be receiving better cellular service but, more importantly to him, the fire department's dispatch

capabilities have improved. However, Howe, says the dispatch quality has decreased in Cardiff and they can no longer reach Faraday or Bancroft like they used to. Middleton says he will look into it.

Middleton also informed council he is working on forming fire protection agreements with all of Highlands East's border municipalities.



Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Notice of Registration for Semester 2

Classes commence Friday, February 4, 2005.

Students interested in meeting with a counsellor to choose classes at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School for Semester 2 should phone for an appointment by January 7, 2005.

Please contact Alison Rae at 457-2950, ext 227.

Bob Orr - Chairman
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Better
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Gary Brohman
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- Barbara Walford-Davis – Minden Food Bank
- Barrie Martin – Community Volunteer
- Gayle Clements – Government Information Centre
- Greg Shantz – Family Services of Haliburton County
- Jim Blake – Haliburton County Development Corporation
- Judy Neimann – Heart & Stroke Foundation
- Laura Willis – Highlands Community Learning Centre
- Laurie Marks-O'Sullivan – Archie Stouffer Elementary School
- Linda Robitaille – Government Information Centre
- Mary Hicks – Minden Food Bank
- Micheline Roy – Principal, Stuart Baker Elementary School
- Morris Duff – Community Volunteer
- Richard Thorne – Principal, Archie Stouffer Elementary School
- Rick Greaves – Haliburton IGA
- Sharon Bacon – Community Volunteer
- Sonja Marx – Haliburton Highlands Trails & Tours Network
- Sue Shikaze – Community Volunteer
- Valerie Smith – Trillium Lakelands District School Board
- Wilma Thomson – Community Volunteer

A desperate need

When news reports started coming about the devastating tsunamis that had swept over the Indian Ocean, most stories centred on Phuket Island Thailand. Even though, as we'd learn to our horror, other countries were far more tragically affected, Phuket Island was not only easy for the journalists to get to but people on the island were able to reach the outside world to tell others what had happened.

As North Americans who have experienced no war, no massive natural disaster, no deaths in the tens of thousands, it is hard for us to comprehend the magnitude of the disaster. On Boxing Day, how many of us were thinking back to December 26, 2003, when 30,000 Iranians were killed by an earthquake? Sadly, most of

us had forgotten all about it. The number of dead was just an extraordinarily large number. We sympathised but then we moved on with our own lives.

echo
editorial

martha perkins

In an odd way, the media's concentration on Phuket made this disaster more real to us because in many ways, the story was about us. Any one of us could have so easily been that tourist enjoying a leisurely breakfast on the beach, unaware of the ferocious power of the huge waves that were about to hit. We could imagine the carefree bliss of that morning; the sunshine, the feeling of escape, the tropical splendour. And then, in minutes, all of it gone.

Later, when the media began to get a sense of how many had been killed in other countries – a staggering 94,000 in Indonesia alone – our minds clouded over. How can one deal with such a number? But 2,000 tourists – 2,000 Europeans and North Americans – somehow we could wrap our imagination around that and begin to understand how cataclysmic this all was. It wasn't racism or a lack of caring about other cultures; it was just our way of being able to put it in perspective.

This week's story by Chris Pothaar takes an international story and brings it home. Chris grew up in a large, well-known family in the Highlands and, as he writes in an e-mail to his family, it would have been so easy for him to have died that day. But, by luck and circumstance, he didn't. It would be interesting to know how such a brush with death in the world's largest natural disaster will change his life.

Undoubtedly, most Highlanders have or will donate to one of the many organizations helping people cope with the disaster. The federal government has done the noble thing and pledged to match up to \$40 million in donations from Canadians, who seem to be responding with open hearts and wallets. One of the *Echo's* former co-op students from Minden, Sue (Carr) Tiffin, recently sent an e-mail to friends. Knowing that many of her friends were still burdened with student debt or low-paying starter jobs, she asks them to consider a \$5 donation. The important thing, she says, is to donate something, anything. And then she provides the e-mail addresses of various relief organizations, outlining how much of the donations will be spent on administration and how much will go to those who need it most. That, too, was a noble thing to do.

The tsunami disaster speaks to our humanity. It tells us about our worst fears. It says that, although we feel we can control our lives, Mother Nature still controls us, and she is not always some benign, nurturing force. She doesn't care about us as individuals. What will be, will be. Let's just show our thanks that it wasn't our turn this time.



Walking in a winter wonderland

Photo by DARREN LUM/ECHO

Preparing for the ice age

There are certain things I do just because I get bored. For instance, when shovelling up dog poop in the yard, I always dispose of it by dropping it down the hole in the old outhouse, a place where I also hang that painting of the dogs playing poker. It doesn't seem like much but I envision a day in the distant future when a team of prominent and highly educated archaeologists will proudly announce that the dogs of our era had reached the height of canine intelligence and etiquette. Maybe they'll even decide that the term "flushing dog" originated in these parts.

For some reason, unknown even to me, I take a perverse comfort in this.

I built an ice hut for similar reasons.

You see, I'm acutely aware that global warming will make my ice hut obsolete within two, maybe three, seasons tops. After that, it will sit in the yard because I am not able to hold my breath for all that long. Which, coincidentally, is also the reason the windows of my fish hut slide open.

Eventually, interminable years will pass, rap music, home decorating shows, and hordes of barbarians on personal watercraft will decimate our civilization, causing tourism here to take a slight down turn in the shoulder seasons - I'll still be married - and that very same team of archaeologists will find themselves working on our little site out here on Vinegar Hill.

They'll get to us first because the rest of the county will be buried in layers of sand and salt accumulated over the years simply because we've got the most eager and conscientious county roads crews in the whole world. I'm guessing that they'll call our site here Stain Hinge, named for the first artefact they find, a white painted door hinge - one of hundreds I've left lying around for that very reason.

Maybe I've been watching too much

Discovery Channel, but soon after my hope is that they will carefully uncover the perfectly preserved remains of my ice hut. And, if all goes right, when they crack open the door they'll find a full-sized stuffed moose sitting on the bench holding an expensive fly rod.

It'll be like a Canadian version of Planet of the Apes.

Naturally, this will leave future historians with several questions -- the most pressing being how anyone could fly cast within the confines of a four-by-six ice hut. This, if current

television trends hold, will warrant a one-hour prime time special entitled, "Secrets of the fly casting bull moose." And, if this happens, it will have all been worth it.

Eventually though, being educated folk, they will come to the startling conclusion that the moose probably stepped outside the hut to fly cast. Even so, they will struggle with a host of theories explaining why members of the herd resorted to building small houses on skis. And since the skis are of the downhill variety, they will logically assume that they

have discovered a race of nomadic moose who eked out a meagre existence fly fishing in alpine regions such as Vinegar Hill.

This would also neatly explain the two holes in the floor of the shack -- one used for braking Flintstone-style, and the other for what happened when the brakes weren't working.

As you can see, a man in an ice hut has time to think things through.

In any case, I figure the ice hut alone will make our descendants re-examine their origins - especially if someone uncovers an old Rocky and Bullwinkle reel. Maybe they'll even have a Scope's Moose Trial.

God, I'd love to be there when it happens. But in the meantime I was wondering, can anyone out there spare an expensive fly rod?

the not so great



steve galea

outdoorsman

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FOREVER IN OUR MEMORIES: CREIGHTON FEIR

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Good year on the way

It was New Year's Day and Kathleen slowly stirred in her bed, a sound having insinuated itself into her sleep. Her first thought was, "Why is my water pump running?" Outside her bedroom window the sky was still dark. Under her comforter, the bed was soft and warm, holding her in an envelope of pleasure that she did not want to leave. So she lay there a little longer, waiting for the pump to turn off. But it didn't. Finally Kathleen knew she had to find out what was up.

Slipping her feet into slippers, she padded downstairs and opened the basement door. As soon as she pushed on the door, she heard the loud hiss of water spraying. Her heart sank before she had even seen the source of the noise. She descended the basement steps to see half the cement floor awash in water and a fountain from the area of her water pump spewing in every direction. Luckily Kathleen knew enough to throw the breaker for the pump and after a few minutes the spewing fountain ceased. Only now she had no water.



sharon
lynch

down
our
road

The thought of trying to find a plumber to make a house call on New Year's Day was daunting but she opened the phone book and started dialling. As she did, she recalled the New Year's Day several years before, a particularly frigid one, when her furnace had quit in the middle of the night and she had awakened to minus thirty degrees outside and less than cozy temperatures inside.

"What is it about me and New Year's Day," she wondered, as she left yet another desperate message on another answering machine.

Being unable to flush the toilet, or even wash her hands, left her feeling suddenly unclean. Not knowing how long the situation would remain - it could be days - left her feeling more than a little panicky. But after the initial surprise, Kathleen mentally shrugged and decided she'd deal with it as best she could. And she continued to wait for a plumber to call her back.

About an hour later, one did and he was very helpful. Although he couldn't get to her for two days he explained what she could and couldn't safely do in the meantime. He also told her she could run the spewing pump for short periods of time, giving her access to water when she really needed it.

After hanging up the phone, she thought it was ironic that she could feel so relieved. Now that she knew what her options were until a plumber came, she felt almost giddy.

Fortunately she had a water cooler, enabling her to make that essential, eye-opening cup of coffee before she had to do any more real thinking. The coffee and a few slices of toast made a new woman out of her.

Her thoughts were interrupted by her ringing phone. It was her good friend Marge phoning to wish her a happy New Year and inviting her over for the day, including dinner. Kathleen could even have a shower if she wanted, and gladly accepted her pal's kind offer.

So although the day had dawned troubling and stressful, it progressed into one of great enjoyment. After Kathleen arrived at Marge's, they both decided to don snowshoes and trek the many trails Marge had made through her acreage. The blue sky could not have been more flawless, the bare trees standing still and clean in the January sunshine.

Later, while Kathleen showered, Marge made lunch of leftover turkey soup and homemade bread. They sat in a sunny window looking out over a quickly melting winter wonderland, blue jays flashing between the trees like shards of sky.

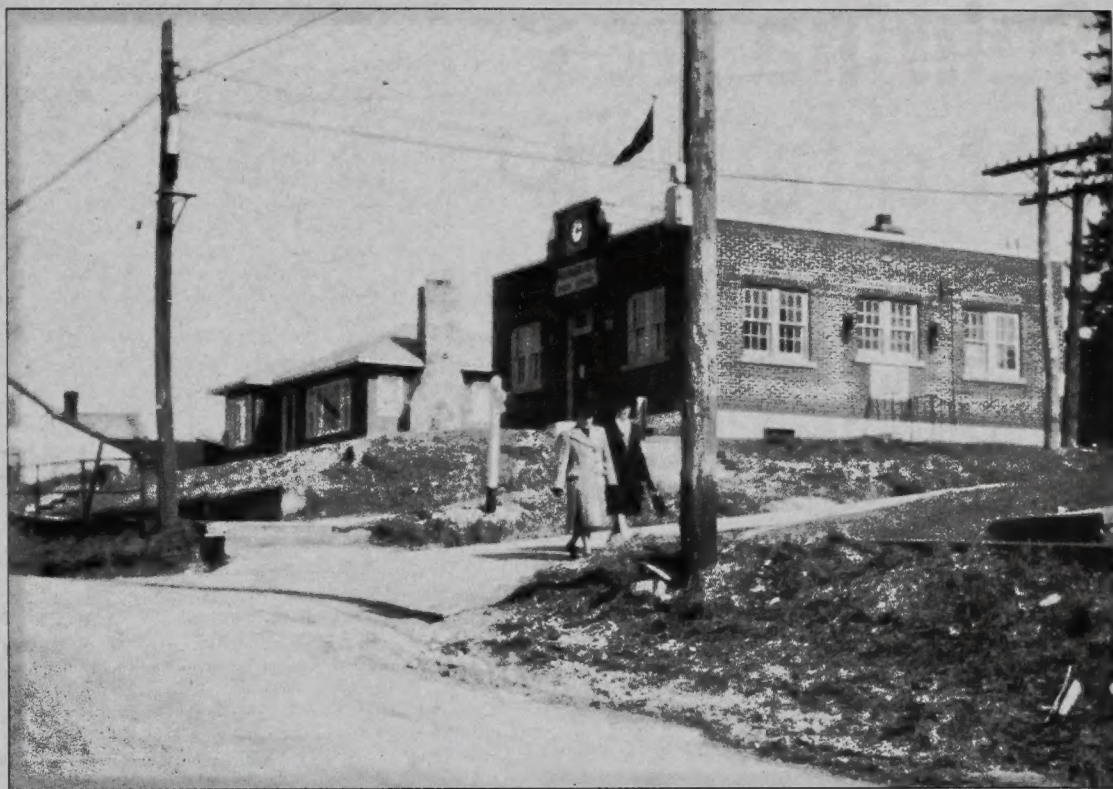
The rest of the day was just as pleasant. The two friends played Scrabble, watched a video and took Marge's dog for a long walk before barbecuing a couple of steaks. It could have been April, except for the early arrival of darkness.

By now Kathleen was feeling ready to return to her dry house where all she had to do was fall into bed. Fresh air, plenty of exercise and good food combined to make the best sleeping tonic ever and she was ready to succumb.

Unfortunately, she discovered one more surprise of the new year. As she walked to her car parked in Marge's driveway, she saw that one of the tires was flat. Kathleen had thought the car had steered oddly when she drove to Marge's that day but then had totally forgotten about it when she arrived at her friend's. And the flat was on the passenger's side so Kathleen didn't see it until she approached the car on that other side.

Now it just so happened that Kathleen had bought a small air compressor at a yard sale back in the summer. It was stuck in the back seat and it was her only hope since no garage was open on this day or at this hour. Holding her breath, Kathleen plugged the compressor into her car lighter and turned on the ignition. She need not have worried. The five dollars the compressor had cost her had been a good investment and in a matter of minutes her tire was looking normal. She was able to drive home without a hitch.

A little later, as she lay once again in her warm and comfortable bed, Kathleen reviewed the events of the day. First she wondered if there was a message for her about what this new year had in store. Less than twenty-four hours into it and she had had to deal with two near-catastrophes. Lying there in the dark with the moonlight pouring through her bedroom window, she smiled. There was indeed a message coming from the day's events. The message was that, when difficulties came her way, she was able to handle them. And that meant it was going to be a very good year indeed.



pic of the past

This view of Highland Street in Haliburton looking eastward changed dramatically in the early 1980s, when the house, which had been owned by Berkely Feir, was sold to Mike and Lynda Easton as part of their redevelopment plans. The house was removed to make way for a series of stores that incorporate the former Haliburton Post Office building, on the right.

letters to the editor

Chamber says it will carry on

Editor's note: The following is a message from ROBERT HALL, President, Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce is at another crossroad in its life, and I want to give our members as much information as possible.

The County of Haliburton issued a request for proposals in July for a three-year tourism marketing contract, and the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce partnered with Haliburton Tourism to submit a comprehensive bid that would draw upon the marketing skills of both non-profit organizations to give the county outstanding value.

After reviewing the two bids that were submitted and considering other options, the county has decided to withdraw the RFP. The county now plans to hire an economic development officer and a tourism marketing coordinator and manage tourism marketing in-house.

The county did offer a nine-month contract to the Chamber, from April 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005, at which time the county would take over the tourism marketing responsibilities completely. The Board of the Chamber carefully considered this option, but could see no up-side benefits to a short-term contract, and declined the offer. We will fulfill our current tourism marketing contract with the county until March 31, 2005, and will then hand over complete responsibility to the county.

We do realize that the county may have diffi-

culty in achieving their goal by March 31, so we have offered to lease the county space in our building for their tourism information centre. This may be a viable option for the county since the building is already set up for this function, with signage, racking, '800' telephone number, etc. We are waiting for their response to this offer.

The loss of the tourism marketing contract will obviously change the direction of the chamber, and we will be making adjustments in order to remain financially viable. We will be reducing our full time staff from two to one on April 1, 2005. County will likely lease space in our building to continue to operate the information centre, however if they choose not to then we will have valuable space to rent. We might also consider other lines of business, and ways to increase value to our members. For the immediate future we will assist county with the transition of tourism marketing and we will be vigilant to ensure that momentum we have created will not falter.

The loss of the tourism marketing contract has occurred in spite of the fact that our staff have done an excellent job in this area. Please join me in thanking Ann, Charlene, Kelly, and all the volunteers for their dedication and hard work.

The Board and staff have some difficult decisions to make in the next three months. Our goal should be to make our Chamber even stronger and more vibrant than it is today. The chamber will become an advocacy organization dealing with member issues locally and provincially. We welcome input and suggestions by members.

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur



'Sabrina was just a loving, caring young woman'

from page 1

Minden. He was not hurt but Ford's car was totally demolished.

When paramedics took her to the Minden health-care centre she did not have any vital signs.

The only child of Brian and Marg Ford of St. Catharines, Sabrina had studied geography at Brock University before her love of nature turned her sights towards Sir Sandford Fleming College's eco-tourism certificate program in Haliburton.

"She had a conscience," says Cousins, who met her when he was taking the drawing and painting certificate program at the college. "I guess she felt that in her own way she was helping the bigger problem that we're in."

"Sabrina was just a lovely, caring young woman, just delightful," says the program's co-ordinator, Val Bishop, who was heartbroken by the news. "She had a future that was just beginning. She had choices ahead of her to be whatever she wanted to be."

Sabrina loved to be outdoors and she loved people. Some combination of the two would have unfolded for her."

With such a small class, the experience of being thrown into this small community together made for a very tight group, Bishop says. "They're brought together in this powerful way."

A classmate says Ford was the type of woman who everyone liked. "She was good to everyone."

After deciding to stay in Haliburton after last spring's graduation, Ford lived with fellow graduate Christine Tinker, who just left for Washington, D.C. to take a job with the International Ecotourism Society.

Stackhouse says it was evident that Sabrina was very close to her parents. Funeral arrangements are not yet known.



LANCE CROSSLEY/Echo

Fatal Minden fire

Police are investigating a house fire that completely destroyed a home on Scotch Line Road West in Minden. The fire occurred about 1:20 a.m. on Monday, killing at least one man. Further details were not available before *The Echo* went to press.

Groups using Highlands East's buildings need their own insurance

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

Small groups using municipal buildings are encouraged to carry their own insurance or become committees of council, Paul Dorman told Highlands East council in December.

Dorman presented the annual insurance policy to council on behalf of Jardine Insurance. He says the good news is the municipality has one the lowest increase he's seen at \$1,500, bringing the total to approximately \$101,700 a year.

The bad news came when he got to the section regarding event insurance. His definition of an event was broader than council had anticipated. He says a seniors club using the municipal building to hold a monthly euchre club is fine but the figure skating club using the arena is not.

Clerk Sharon Stoughton-Craig expressed concern that the volunteer-run figure skating club may not be able to afford their own insurance. Dorman says if the club is

made part of the municipality's recreation committee then they would be fine but someone from council would have to sit on their board and the finances would have to be controlled by council.

He offered the same advice with regards to a group of mothers who meet once a week at the community centre and hold a play group for their children.

"If the group's important to the municipality then make them part of your recreation committee," he says.

Stoughton-Craig expressed her concern over the added administration. She also remarked on other small events, such as craft sales, that aren't asked for proof of insurance before the municipal building is used. Councillor Rick Forget commented maybe they should be asking.

Dorman suggested that the municipality sell an event coverage insurance policy called PAL as a service to these groups and perhaps add an additional charge to cover some of their expenses. He suggested that council draft its own guidelines around who does or does not need insurance and if they are going to sell PAL, what the rules will be.

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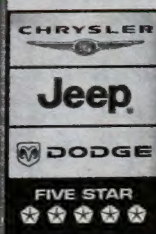
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from page 1

previously been there. After picking my way around the puddle, I saw the beach.

When I had been there the previous day, it had been postcard perfect. Gentle turquoise waves lapping onto a broad swath of white sand ending at the palm trees behind. The dive shop was located directly on the beach, adjacent to the island's controversial luxury resort, which marred the landscape with its stark white, 2-storey concrete architecture and hundreds of reclining chairs scattered along the waterfront. But today the chairs were not on the beach. They were tossing in the roiling brown water that now filled the bay, along with loose boats, coolers, umbrellas, the detached floating pier, and other flotsam and jetsam.

I stood outside the dive shop for a minute, looking at the destruction and trying to calculate the cost of it all. I barely registered that another surge was rolling in, until I heard shouting and saw the other gawkers running away from the beach. Not wanting to get my pants wet, I headed towards higher ground also, but was stopped by the little cinderblock dive shop.

The water continued to surge forward, and rose to the level of my waist, soaking my money and passport. I ran towards the front doorway to the dive shop, but was swept off my feet by the water. I could feel heavy objects striking my legs. I grabbed one of the roof beams, hoping to lift myself up into the rafters, but something large collided with my lower body. I lost my grip and was stirred into the thick stew. I was blind under water and knew that this would likely be the location of my death.

As I attempted to swim to the place where I believed the back door to be, I started to think about the direction my life has taken recently and the randomness of dying in this strange place. I guess outside of a hospital or one's own bed, any place is pretty random.

My thoughts were arrested, however, when I was slammed into a concrete wall. I struggled for the surface, and upon opening my eyes, saw the water smash through the brick wall on one side of the shop. I swam through the

The water was thick with solid objects, large and small, heavy and light, blunt and sharp. I could see refrigerators, logs.... and a massive sheet metal roof floating by.

opening, just as the roof collapsed under the weight of the water above. I was fortunate to escape the dive shop at the time that I did, not only because I would have been crushed had I stayed there one second longer, but if I had escaped any earlier, I would have been slammed against a tree or a building as the water rushed forward.

By the time I reached the actual surface (as opposed to the air trapped in the attic of the dive shop), the tidal wave had already crested, and the water was beginning to slow and reverse direction. The directional velocity of the water was low, but the flow had not reached equilibrium and the turbulent currents tried to roll me under with the rest of the debris. It is difficult to imagine how much junk there was in the water. Had it been simply strong currents, I might have been less terrified, as I consider myself to be a fairly strong swimmer. However, the water was thick with solid objects, large and small, heavy and light,

blunt and sharp. I could see refrigerators, logs.... and a massive sheet metal roof floating by.

Without waiting for it to behead me, I climbed aboard. As I searched around for a more pleasant spot to enjoy the sunshine, I saw my friend John, the photographer, standing on higher ground, too far away to help. I doubt he was cold-blooded enough to take a picture (to my knowledge, he's not a photojournalist), but I hope he got one.

The water had now reversed direction, flowing slowly at first, but with increasing speed, out to sea. Once the backflowing wave met the churning water in the bay, the rules of simple fluid dynamics were discarded, and my aluminum liferaft rapidly disintegrated into giant whipping blades. As the relative safety it

afforded me had been withdrawn, I chose to abandon it in favour of my own swimming ability. My own swimming ability was somewhat diminished by my pants, which were around my thighs and my sandals, which flopped.

As I struggled with the objects in the water, something bumped into the back of my head. A large wooden boat. A long-tail, similar to the one which had brought us to the island. It was empty. I don't know how to drive a long-tailed boat, and now didn't seem like an ideal time to learn. I checked my body for wounds and thought about how people of average intelligence don't stand on the beach waiting for a second tsunami. I had severe abrasions running down the inside length of my right arm. There were lacerations randomly scattered about my body, but my right foot had sustained the worst damage. It was laced with unnecessary venting, like gills on an inbred shark. Something grey protruded from the top of my foot, and the swelling around it was already transforming my foot into a dangerous looking club. There was blood everywhere. Also, it kinda hurt.

I looked around me, and saw a diver's inflatable BCD (buoyancy control device) vest floating beside the boat. I snatched it out of the water. Then the boat capsized. Back into the soup. This time under a boat. I swam out from under it, and rested my hand on the edge till it sunk beneath me. I grabbed onto a large cooler and considered getting inside. There were two reasons why I didn't.

1. I'd seen how my formerly sea-worthy vessel had fared in the enormous waves. 2. I couldn't.

About twenty metres away, the loose floating pier writhed like a choked snake. I swam over to it, climbed aboard, and waited for it to upend. Before that could happen, a speedboat pulled alongside, and a Thai man whisked me aboard. I like being rescued. I also enjoyed the realization that my stupid mistake would become an anecdote, not an epitaph. My rescue craft pulled up to a larger boat containing some diving instructors and my friend, Andrea.

Andrea had finished the final dive for her diving certificate only minutes

See **I can't express** page 11

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I can't express how lucky I feel right now. Not only am I alive, but I have no broken bones, and I can get around on crutches.

from page 10

before the first wave had hit, and upon returning to land, had promptly jumped into a boat to hunt for floaters. She was a little surprised that the only floater happened to be me.

I lay down on the floor of the boat and thought how fortunate I was to be alive. Then the initial burst of adrenaline and endorphins subsided and I thought about how much pain I was in. It was during this time that the third wave hit. Since I was on the floor of the boat, I didn't see it, but I was told it was higher than the palm trees by the time it crested on shore. I had been out of the water less than five minutes.

Our boat could not safely make it to the larger island of Phuket, so when a large yacht pulled up, I was transferred to it with Andrea. On board, we met three amazing people: Gina, Nick, and Sam, who treated my wounds with a first aid kit, and were funny and kind, and told stories, and kept me awake. Nick and Sam were trained paramedics and gave me a complete examination to show to the doctors at the hospital. Without the immediate treatment and ride to Phuket they gave me, I would have been in much worse shape. Nick, Sam, and Gina, I am most grateful to you.

The trip to Phuket took about an hour and a half. Before arriving at the newer concrete pier (the older wooden one we used on our initial departure no longer existed.), we switched to a smaller boat driven by three excitable Thais who kept repeating the same things to each other in progressively sharper and louder voices as we made abortive attempts to approach the pier in the high waves. My confidence dwindled.

After finally arriving on dry land, I was put on a stretcher, almost dumped off a stretcher, then loaded into the back of an ambulance. A lot of scary driving and yelling of the same thing in Thai ensued before we arrived at the hospital.

The waiting room was full of disaster victims like me, with varying degrees of injury. None of them looked as happy to be alive as I felt.

I started writing this in the hospital while waiting for nurses, x-rays, bandages, stitches and painkillers. I wrote more while the doctor cut my foot open, extracted the foreign objects (the grey thing was not bone or gristle as initially feared), and stitched it back up.

Andrea also has been wonderful. She found us a guesthouse where I am now writing and has now gone off to find food, Internet and clothes. After lounging around the hospital waiting room for an hour in nothing but my underwear, I was grateful for the pink hospital clothes, but now I crave something a little more stylish.

I can't express how lucky I feel right now. Not only am I alive, but I have no broken bones, and I can get around on crutches. I have my passport, bank card, cash and tickets, and my luggage will hopefully arrive intact from Ko Raya in a few days when my other friends find me. The dive instructors should tell them I'm okay, so they'll only believe me to be dead for a few hours. Easy.

It's hard not to think of all the people who have been seriously injured or killed, or had their livelihoods destroyed (and unlike me, don't have insurance). But as a victim myself, it's easier not to think of the incalculable loss these people have suffered. I'll leave that to you.

My own misfortune in being very nearly drowned is eclipsed by my massively good fortune in that I am still alive. And that is enough to occupy my mind for now.

I plan to keep you informed of any further developments.

Sincerely,
Chris



After putting out a loonie donation jar for tsunami disaster relief, Amin and Rosemary Shivji of Village Court Pharmacy have been gratified to see how quickly it's filling up. They will match the first \$500 in donations and then Axis Pharmacy will match the first \$24,000 raised by its member pharmacies.

Pharmacy owners to match disaster relief donations

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

A loonie may be a small way to help the people of Southeast Asia cope with the aftermath of the devastating tsunamis, but at Village Court Pharmacy that loonie can go a long way.

The Haliburton pharmacy's owners, Amin and Rosemary Shivji, will match the first 500 loonies donated at the store. Their parent company, Axis Pharmacy, will then match the total customer contributions to the Tsunami Disaster Relief Loonie Drive to a maximum of \$20,000.

"It's just a natural instinct to want to do something," says Rosemary. Customers started making donations as soon as the jar was on the counter. "We've all spent so much money on Christmas and here are people [in Southeast Asia] who are left with nothing so the least we can do is dig into our pockets."

"It's just being human, a citizen of the world."

Pastor Brian Plouffe says Lakeside Baptist Church is encouraging its congregation to donate \$20 for every family

member. "That's probably something that's reachable for families."

They can donate it to two organizations supported by the church, The Sharing Way and Franklin Gram's Samaritan's Purse or one of the several international aid organizations mentioned in Sunday's program.

"The key is to show love for the world community," he says. "Although we don't know these people they're part of a global community."

"We want to make sure people understand that this is a world emergency. It's hard to come to terms with how many have died. But imagine how many are injured or will become diseased? The whole world is just aching with what's happening."

The church, like many others in the community, may come up with other fundraising projects in the future but all congregations are being asked to contribute to the disaster relief funds in large ways or small.

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in Haliburton has an account for direct contributions and the Bank of Montreal is also setting one up on Tuesday.

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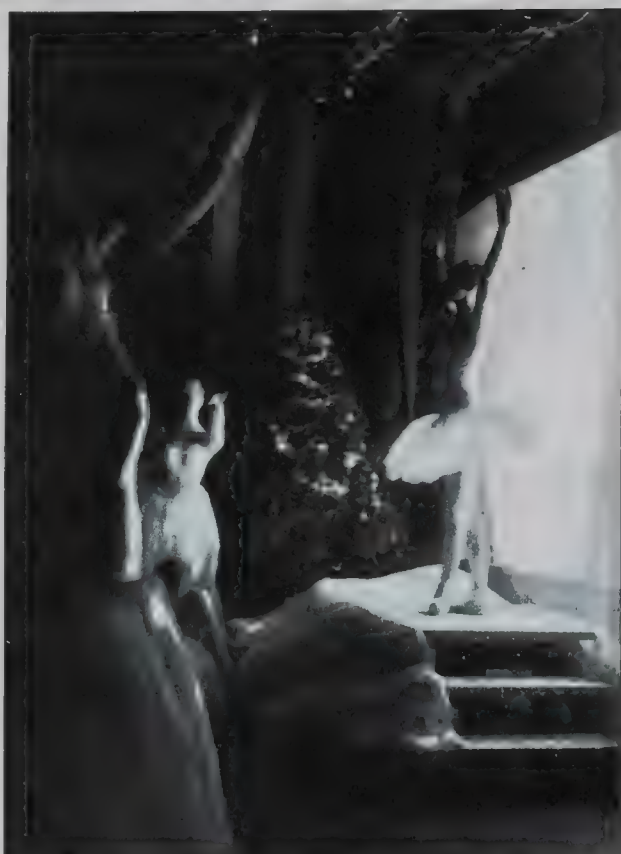
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Please bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to the local food bank.

**The Haliburton Sled Dog Derby is
January 29 and 30. Don't miss it!**

Photos by Darren Lum

Right: A ballet performer watches Archer get into position.



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Past few weeks busy for Kai Shin Karate Club

HEATHER SEABROOKE

Special to the Echo

While others were watching the Santa Claus Parade, 40 karate students from around the province gathered at Haliburton's Kai Shin for a board and brick breaking seminar taught by Sensi Mike Chapman.

Board breaking is a practical way for the students to see the effects of their training. There were students who had never tried breaking before and others who had.

Sensi Chapman encouraged the more experienced to try breaking two to three boards at one time.

Brick breaking is a whole other ball game where mental preparation is crucial. Students must think past the brick as if to hit something below it. Any hes-



itation before hitting the brick leaves the brick intact and the hand in a bucket of ice.

All in all the day was a great success with many eager to return for next years' class.

On December 5 the Club travelled to Mississauga for a tournament. Brian McNeil had a great day, winning first in sparring and second in Kata. Amanda

Alexander took third in sparring and third in Kata while brother Steven took fourth place in sparring despite injuring his knee in the process. Tyler Peet won a first place in Kata, Kyle Seabrooke won third place in sparring, Rob Jones won fourth place for his Kata.

The club's next event is a belt grading on Jan. 9. Spectators welcome.



Above left: Brian McNeil receives his medal on Dec. 5.

Above: Sensi Chapman helps a young student.

Cabin fever is a thing of the past with numerous activities in the county

Had too many chocolates and cookies this Christmas? Feel the need to burn off a few calories? Erin Lynch offers this overview of some of the fitness opportunities available in the Highlands.

Morning Walks

Now to May 31, 2005, excluding school holidays.

The Heart and Stroke Foundation invites you to join the walking group on their morning walks through the halls of Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden (7:30 am to 8:15 am) Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) in Haliburton Village (7:10 am to 8:15 am). It's free and it's good for you! For more information call Jackie and Kelly Metcalfe 705 456-3756.

Women's Pick-Up Basketball

Thursday Nights 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Cost: \$3.00

HHSS School Gym. For more information call Emma Thurley at 705 457-2506

Adult Badminton

Mondays 7:45 pm to 9:45 pm

Archie Stouffer Elementary School, Minden
For more information call 705 286-1765

Squash

The Haliburton Squash Club is re-forming

There is presently one court for play

A supporting fee of \$50.00 gets you unlimited use and helps to get the club rolling again.

For more information call Glen Carter at 705 457-2862

Family Swim

Wigamog Inn

Monday to Thursday, \$60 + GST monthly or \$8/per time, 705 457-2000

Pinestone Inn

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 12 noon

\$53.50/per month, 705 457-1800

Aquasize for Seniors

Offered by Haliburton County Home Support Services at the Wigamog Inn's pool.

Mon. mornings from 10:30 to 11:30; Wed.mornings from 9:30 to 10:30.

Space is limited. Call 457-2941.

Yoga, Nia, Pilates, Qigong and Meditation

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Evening and daytime classes for beginners and experienced students at Heritage Ballet (under Stedmans)

Jan. 17 - April 1. Call 457-1990 or 457-3121

Kathy Carey, Personal Fitness Trainer

All Classes Take Place at Haliburton Dance Arts, George St, Haliburton. For more info. call 705 457-3124

Mondays

11:45a.m.-12:30p.m. "fit over 50"

7:00p.m.-7:45p.m. Muscle Pump

7:50p.m.-8:35p.m.Kick-boxing

Tuesdays:

12:05 p.m.-12:50 p.m. Pilates

Wednesdays

10:45 a.m.-11:30 a.m. "fit over 50"

6:45 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Pilates

Thurs.

7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Muscle Pump

7:50 p.m. - 8:35 p.m. Kick-boxing

Step-It Fitness

All classes at St. George's Anglican Church, Haliburton. Classes are Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 12:10 to 1 p.m. and 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. and Wed. night at 5:15. Call Jane Johnston at 457-1052 for details.

Volleyball

Parents and Teens, Wed from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm J.D Hodgson Elementary, Haliburton

Dorset Recreation Centre 705 766-9968

Offers a wide variety of fitness and leisure pursuits including an international squash court, a gym equipped with badminton, floor hockey, basketball and volleyball equipment, a fitness room with free weights, weight machines, a treadmill, assorted "Life" machines and ping pong tables. Winter Hours (September to May) are Mon. to Wed. 9 am to 9 pm, Thurs. 5 pm to 9 pm, Fri. 9 am to 1 pm and Sat. 10 am to 4 pm.

Mon. Badminton in the gym - Kids 5:30 to 6:30 pm,

Adults 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Tues. Floor Hockey in the gym - Kids 5:30 to 6:30 pm,

Adults 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Wed. Basketball in the gym - Kids 5:30 to 6:30 pm,

Adults 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Thurs. Volleyball in the gym - Kids 5:30 to 6:30 pm,

Adults 6:30 to 8:30 pm

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Resolve to go skiing

Every year at about this time there are the inevitable New Year's resolution stories in the newspapers and on television. This year's stories also feature the sad statistic that half of Canadians are overweight.

On the bright side, there is a raging exercise fad for Pilates and yoga, activities that focus on strengthening the trunk or core — meaning the back and abdominal muscles.

Many clever people combine the two elements (shed excess body weight, improve core strength) in one simple, pleasant workout: skiing. And darned if it doesn't make great use of all that white stuff that we've been shovelling non-stop for the past few weeks.

It seems these folks are realizing how beneficial this activity is for all aspects of health and strength.

With more people taking up skiing comes the need for lessons. Many people find that experimenting with a new technique or sport is fun, but sometimes frus-

trating. Often a lesson can increase the fun (glide) in short order.

Adult lessons are a hot topic among new members, and lessons will be available on Jan. 13, 20 and 27. Meet under the lights at Glebe Park at 7 p.m.. These lessons are a great way to brush up on the basics or to acquire new skills, and we'll cover both classic and skating techniques in separate groups.

Beginners are welcome, and the cost is \$5 per lesson.

Some of the instructors will be skiers who are becoming certified this year. This is due to a matching grant received by the Haliburton Ski Club through the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation to provide extra training for our Jackrabbit instructors.

Another important date to remember is Jan. 8, which is the date of the Haliburton Open (note that Glebe Trails will close until 1p.m.), and the first Jackrabbit session.

cross country skiing — nordic notes

Blake Paton



DARREN LUM/Echo

No experience like snow experience

YMCA Camp Wanakita's Andrea Pepe gives cross-country skiing instruction to the Ouwehand family, Thomas, Corinne, and father Jan, originally from Holland, living here for the last four months. This was their first experience skiing and enjoying the plentiful snow up here in the Highlands. The Ouwehands participated in the camp's New Years Family Camp which ran four days and included various outdoor activities such as tobogganing, snowshoeing, and hockey.



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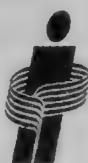
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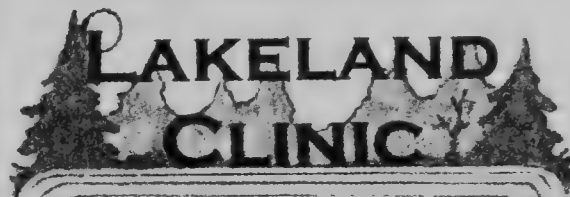
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Harcourt ushers in the new year with 45 year tradition

Unable to sleep one night before Christmas, I walked out to the kitchen to sit in my rocking chair by the window. The kitchen was aglow from the full moon and it illuminated the pearly white expanse of snow that blanketed the back yard. The moonbeams crept through the silhouettes of pine and maple trees, the shadows on the rocks were stark, and the combined detail was breathtaking. Some say a full moon makes people slightly odd; however, I did not witness "the man in the moon". I did watch a doe steal hesitantly into the bright moonlight and while half in and half out of the shadows she fed. It was a visual delight and I sat mesmerized.

As I sat there alone in my rocking chair bathing in the silence that surrounded me, sipping my hot milk and gazing over the unbelievable sight before me, I slipped peacefully into my moon reverie. I remembered the first time that I sat woolgathering on a moonlit night and how I became addicted for life. I glanced toward the outdoor thermometer where the mercury reached a mere minus 20 degrees Fahrenheit and remembered that my first night was a night like this except it was not as bitterly cold. The moon cast the same magical spell over the back yard, creating the same fascinating shadows while bouncing light off the pearly snow, shimmering into the clear cold air.

I could sit no longer as the view from the window was totally compelling and, with not a minute to waste I slipped my bare feet into the old worn winter boots and pulled on my old coat. I opened the back door and the cold assailed me heightening my awareness of the full, splendid moonlight and the scene outside. The doe

looked up at me and sensing no need to fear me, lowered her head and continued to feed.

The slate blue sky provided the perfect backdrop for the blaze of bright winter stars. Orion's constellation winked brightly at me and I felt I could almost reach out and pluck the three twinkling stars from Orion's belt. The moon continued to shine through the trees and I stood in fascination and appreciation of the lacework of shadows that decorated my backyard. A fine seamstress would take a lifetime to create what the moon created in an instant.

I don't know how long I stood there feeling like a captive, privileged to behold the wild, primitive scene before me. Finally, the instinct of survival came to liberate me before the cold settled too far into my aging bones and I turned and went back indoors. I closed the door with regret on the magnificent sight; however, not on a special memory I will cherish for, as long I am able to remember it.

Christmas Eve I spent with family and friends at my sister's home in Bowmanville; however, by all accounts, the Christmas Eve sleigh ride arranged by Tammy Donaldson gave more than 50 people great joy. The full moon bathed the participants in its special glow and Jack Frost nipped at their fingers and toes as they were carried over the Harcourt countryside by horse and sleigh. All enjoyed themselves immensely.

New Year's Eve is like every other night. There is no pause in the hands of time to mark the passage of yet another 12 months, nor is there a natural phenomenon or happening like a thunderstorm to mark the beginning of a new year. A new year is beautiful, like new falling snow, each day is unique and shaped just for each individual, and that individual adds something as each day grows. More than 100 people came to the Harcourt Community Centre's New Year's Eve Celebration to mark the passage of 2004 and the beginning of 2005.

In the Harcourt area, community members have gathered for over 45 years to celebrate the new year at the Harcourt Community Centre. The first organization meeting of the Harcourt Community Hall Board was held in the Council Chamber at Haliburton on Tuesday, June 21, 1960. Members present at the time were E.A. Cooper, Waulze Gerow, Louis Rodregue and Harcourt

community news

harcourt

Valerie Smith
448-3540

(Sonny) Pacey. Reeve Holly Sisson chaired the meeting until Ernie Warren was elected Chairman of the Committee. Ross Covert, son in law of original Hall Board member, Waulze Gerow took the lead in organizing this year's New Year's Eve Dance. On hand to assist him were

Orval Donaldson, Tammy and Lyle Donaldson, Mel and Val Smith, Jim Lambert, Ed Otto, and Lynn London. Before the dance a delicious home-cooked meal was organized and prepared by Marlene Niles with the help of her husband Stan, Dolly Packard, Val Smith, Eleanor Peel, Lynn London, Stu and Cathy Garland, Marion Donaldson, and Trish Riley.

New Year's Eve celebrants were well entertained by Willie and The Poor Boys. Also on hand were Tom Cogan Sr. and son Tom Jr. to share a number of well loved songs. Ross Covert called a couple of square dances that brought back fond memories and put smiles on many faces while couples laughed and followed such directions as Grand Swing Thru, Right and Left Grand Chain and All Spin Out. Great fun!

The Word of Life Clothing Outreach in Highland Grove had a very busy and rewarding time during the Christmas season as they reached out and touched the lives of many families. I have heard that their refrigerator ceased to function over the holiday season. If you have one you would like to donate, please call the Outreach. Their facility is located across from the community centre in Highland Grove in the old United Church. They have good quality used clothes and some new. Prices are great. \$8 to fill a green garbage bag, \$3 to fill a handle bag and other items are priced separately. The Outreach also accepts clothes and small household items. Funds go towards keeping the Outreach open and to help meet the needs in the community in various ways. Hours are Tuesday and Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Don't Forget Harcourt Community Centre continues to offer:

January 5 - 7:30 p.m. Bingo. For further information call Debbie Shatraw at 448 - 3155.

See The Echo page 17-

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A word of caution for winter anglers in highlands

With another ice fishing season under way, winter anglers are encouraged to make personal safety a priority.

Always check ice conditions with local ice hut operators before venturing onto a frozen lake. It's also a good idea to let others know where you're planning to fish and when you plan to return. Appropriate dress and equipment are key to safety and comfort. Many anglers wear floater suits and carry a set of ice picks.

Other important ice facts:

- Ice does not freeze at a uniform thickness across most lakes and rivers. Check thickness regularly with a spud bar or auger as you go.

- Not all ice is created equal. Ice that

has formed over flowing water, springs, pressure cracks, old ice holes or around the mouths of rivers and streams can be weaker than surrounding ice.

- Clear blue ice is the strongest. White or opaque ice is much weaker (thickness levels should be doubled). Ice that has a honeycombed look, common during thaws or in the spring, should be avoided altogether.

- Travelling on frozen lakes or rivers with snowmobiles or vehicles can be particularly dangerous and added precautions must be taken. At least 20 cm (eight inches) of clear blue ice is required for snowmobiles and 30 cm (12 inches) or more is needed for most light vehicles.

The Echo columnist extends New Year's wishes to her readers

from page 16

January 6 - 7:30 p.m. Progressive Euchre. Euchre Nights at Harcourt Community Centre have been designated as a smoke free evening. A break is provided in order that people may smoke outdoors. Join the tradition and fun of Euchre. For further information please call Mel Smith at 448 3640.

January 9 - 7:00 p.m. Harcourt Community Centre Hall Board Meeting

January 13 - 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Pre-Teen Dance. All children ages 7 years to 16 years are welcome. Cost: \$3.00. Please remember parents are always welcome, and volunteers to help with the dances are greatly appreciated.

If it were possible that wishes could

come true, then this is my New Year's wish for all: beauty and softness with surprises thrown in for delight. I wish every grandparent the opportunity to love a precious grandchild like our Rachel. I wish for night skies ablaze with bright stars and the magic of moonlight for all, and day skies filled with bright sunshine and big, fluffy clouds. I wish the upcoming year is filled with hope and that everyone is given the strength to cope. I wish for courage, faith and patience to prevail in everyone's hearts and homes always and may everyone have lots of love bringing happiness to all. Happy New Year 2005.



DARREN LUM/Echo

Literacy cheer

(left to right) Wilberforce Elementary School's (WES) kindergarten student Lily-Rose Drain and Elsie Lewis, 78, chuckle while reading a Christmas book a few weeks ago. For the first time junior and senior kindergarten students read books they had made and other favourites to seniors with the Senior Citizen Club at the Lloyd Watson Centre in Wilberforce on Tuesday, Nov. 30.

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Chocolate craze continues through the ages

Chocolate, ever since being discovered by the Aztecs, has made us fall in love with it. It is one of the most desired sweets, whether in hot chocolate, cookies, cakes, chocolate mousse, puddings, and the list goes on.

Who doesn't like chocolate?

One of my first summer jobs was at the CNE in guess what? A chocolate and candy store. One of my good friends owns a chocolate company in Toronto and when I visit I am like a kid in a candy shop; especially when I get to the chocolate covered fortune cookies. Heaven.

This is a great chocolate cake that is low in fat. It disappears very quickly.

Chocolate Snacking Cake

2 tbsp instant espresso powder or coffee granules
1/2 cup boiling water
2 1/4 cups all purpose flour
2 cups granulated sugar
3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1 1/2 tsp each baking powder and baking soda
1 tsp salt
1 3/4 cups buttermilk*
2 eggs
1/4 cup vegetable oil
2 tsp vanilla

Chocolate Icing

1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1/4 cup granulated sugar
4 tsp cornstarch
1/2 cup buttermilk
1/4 cup corn syrup

1/2 tsp vanilla

Dissolve espresso powder in water; let cool. Grease 13x9 inch cake pan; line bottom with waxed paper. In large bowl, mix together flour, sugar, cocoa, baking powder, baking soda and salt.

Beat in buttermilk, eggs, oil, vanilla and espresso mixture; beat for two minutes. Pour into prepared pan. Bake in centre of 350° oven for about 45 minutes or until top springs back when lightly touched. Let cool in pan on rack for 20 minutes. Remove from pan; let cool completely on rack.

Chocolate Icing: Meanwhile, in heavy saucepan, mix together cocoa, sugar and cornstarch; whisk in buttermilk and corn syrup until smooth. Whisking constantly, bring to simmer over medium heat; simmer for 2 minutes. Remove room heat; stir in vanilla. Let cool, stirring occasionally, for 45 our unit thickened spread over top and sides of cake. Makes 16 Servings. Delicious. 270 calories, 6 g fat, 5 g protein, 51 g carbohydrate.

This is a must make. It is heaven or at least as close as you find in Haliburton
**Tip: if you don't have Buttermilk use regular milk and add a tbsp of vinegar for each cup to curdle it a bit.*

Baked chocolate mousse
1/2 cup granulated sugar

cooking with



franka andriano

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1/3 cup butter, in pieces
12 oz semisweet chocolate chopped
4 eggs
2 egg yolks
2 tbsp instant coffee granules
1/2 tsp cinnamon

Garnish

1 cup whipping cream
2 tbsp sugar
1 tsp cinnamon
1/2 tsp unsweetened cocoa powder

Line bottom of 8 inch round cake pan with parchment or waxed paper. Set aside. In saucepan, stir sugar with one-third cup water over medium heat until dissolved. Add butter; simmer, stirring occasionally, until melted and about to boil. Remove from heat. Add chocolate; whisk until melted.

In bowl; whisk eggs with egg yolks; whisk in to chocolate mixture in two additions. Dissolve coffee granules in one-third warm water; whisk into chocolate mixture along with cinnamon.

Scrape into prepared pan. Set pan in larger pan; pour in enough hot water to come halfway up side of cake pan. Bake in centre of 425° oven for about 35-40 minutes or just until firm to the touch at edge but still slightly jiggly in centre. Remove from water; let cool completely on rack.

Mousse can be wrapped in plastic wrap and refrigerated for up to 5 days or

frozen in rigid airtight container for up to one month: Thaw in refrigerator for 8 hours. Run thin knife around mousse to loosen from pan; invert onto cake plate, shaking pan slightly. Peel off paper.

Garnish: In bowl, whip cream with sugar; mound on top of mousse. Combine cinnamon with cocoa; sprinkle over top. Makes 16 servings. 250 calories, 19 g fat, 3 g protein, 21 g carbohydrate

I like to do these in little ramekins so each has their own and also stops-form overeating these, as they are addictive.

Chocolate Spoons

For a treat try these. They're great for gifts.

In bowl over saucepan of hot, not boiling water, melt 4oz chopped semisweet, milk or white chocolate stirring occasionally. Remove from heat. Dip bowl of each of eight heatproof plastic spoons into chocolate to completely coat. Refrigerate on waxed paper lined baking sheet until firm. Wrap chocolate end of spoon in plastic wrap and tie with ribbon.

Spoons can be refrigerated in airtight container for up to two weeks. Makes 8 spoons.

75 calories. 1 g protein 5g fat 8 g carbohydrate

- From Canadian Living Best Chocolate

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NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION TO PURCHASE ROAD ALLOWANCE MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

DATE: January 10th, 2005

TIME: any person who wishes to address Council should contact the Planning Department for a delegation time.

LOCATION: Council Chambers, Municipal Office, Haliburton, Ontario.

APPLICATIONS:

The Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al has by resolution declared the following parcels of land to be surplus. These parcels of land are parts of original road allowances, allowances for road or shoreline road allowances, located in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton.

1. **Applicant:** Barker/Roe
Location: Wenona Lake
 - Shoreline Road Allowance
 - Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lot 11, Concession 2, Township of Dudley.
 - Defined as Part 1 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Paul Wilson Surveying Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department.
2. **Applicant:** Chadwick
Location: Kennisis Lake
 - Shoreline Road Allowance
 - Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lot 10, Concession 3, Township of Havelock.
 - Defined as Parts 1 and 2 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Paul Wilson Surveying Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department.
3. **Applicant:** Sloan/Tranter
Location: Kashagawigamog Lake
 - Shoreline Road Allowance
 - Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lot 4, Concession 6, Township of Dysart.
 - Defined as Parts 2 and 3 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Paul Wilson Surveying Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al proposes to consider and if deemed appropriate enact at its meeting as noted above, a by-law to close, stop-up and convey the portions of road allowance described above.

BEFORE PASSING the said by-law, the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al shall at its meeting to be held as noted above, hear in person or by his counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his land will be affected by the said by-law.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION is available for review from the Planning Department at the Municipal Office during regular offices hours (9:00 am. to 5:00 pm. Monday to Friday).

DATED at the Township of Dysart, this 17th day of December, 2004.

Patricia E. Martin
M.C.I.P., R.P.P.
Municipal Planner

Dorset Snowball accepts submissions from young budding writers

Dorset Snowball is hosting a young writers and teens short story and poetry contest.

There are four categories:

- elementary school short story (up to 500 words), \$25 prize, donated by First Capital Financial-FundEX Investments
- secondary school short story (up to 1,200 words), \$25. prize, donated by First Capital Financial-FundEX Investments
- elementary school poetry (up to 50 lines), \$25. prize, donated by Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library
- secondary school poetry, \$25. prize, donated by T. Heathcock

No previous contest-winning entries of previously published works will be allowed.

Winning entries will be announced at the Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival in the Dorset Branch of the Haliburton County Public Library with winning writers reading their works from 10 to 11 a.m. on February 19, followed by an "open-mic."

Submissions to be sent to the Dorset Branch of the Haliburton Public Library, Box 70 Dorset, ON P0A 1E0 or the Dorset Recreation Centre at drc@vianet.on.ca by no later than 24 January, 2005.

IMPORTANT NOTICE Municipality of Highlands East

The next council meeting
will be held on
January 18, 2005 at 9:00am
Council Chambers in Wilberforce.

Sharon Stoughton-Craig, CMO
CAO/Clerk-Treasurer
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Morrison's make New Year's dance worth remembering

ELEANOR COOPER

West Guilford correspondent

Congratulations to newlyweds Paul and Elizabeth Zuwala (nee Cooper), daughter of Earl and Eleanor who were married on Dec. 29th at St. George's Anglican Church in St. Catharines.

For the most part, the New Year's dance at the cen-

tre was a success. This was made possible by the hard work and dedication by Pat Morrison and Karen Morrison. A special thank you to Lynn Morrison and Kelly Harrison for putting up with the nonsense and still managed to pull it all together for the betterment of the Centre.

It is that time of year again to prepare for the Snow Shuffle which is set for Feb. 26. For more details call

Greg Cooper at 754-3210.

Also this is our 25th year for Canada Day celebration. In order to put together a deserving event we must start planning now.

If you have any suggestions or can volunteer your time please call Cheryl Cooper at 754-3210.

Everybody loves a quitter

Quit smoking 2005 contest gives smokers incentive to quit

A provincial contest that encourages smokers to quit is good news for local residents who have Ontario's highest rate of exposure to second-hand smoke in homes.

Health for Life is welcoming the launch of the Ontario Quit Smoking 2005 Contest as an opportunity for smokers in Haliburton County to win a new car and – just as importantly – clear the air in their home and community.

"On its own, giving up smoking brings so many health benefits to you, your family and community. The Quit Smoking 2005 Contest is just an added incentive for smokers to kick the tobacco habit for good," says Anne-Marie Cyr, a public health nurse with Health for Life.

The Quit Smoking 2005 Contest challenges daily smokers who are 19 years of age and older to butt out by February 1 and stay smoke-free for one month. People who are up to the challenge can win a brand-new Ford Mustang or one of seven Sony home theatre surround sound systems. Anyone who enters is asked to choose a buddy to help them stay smoke-free. The buddy stands to win a cash prize as well.

People can enter the Quit Smoking 2005 Contest by visiting www.quitsmokingontario.ca or picking up a registration form at any local health Unit office. The deadline to register for the contest is January 31.

Cyr is issuing a challenge to local smokers to enter the contest, noting the community has a long way to go in protecting people from second-hand smoke. She cites the Canadian Community Health Survey for 2003, in which Statistics Canada found 15.8 per cent of residents (ages 12 and over) in Haliburton County, Northumberland County and City of Kawartha Lakes were exposed to second-hand smoke at home. The local percentage was the highest of all health regions in Ontario, Cyr notes.

"Quitting isn't easy, but you will love how you feel and so will your family and friends," she says. "As a community, we can also breathe easier knowing more of our residents are protected from the harmful effects of second-hand smoke."

Preparation is the key to quitting smoking. For that reason, smokers are encouraged to call their local Health Unit office for tips and resources on staying smoke-free.

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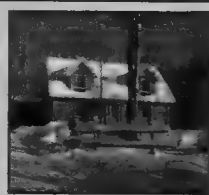
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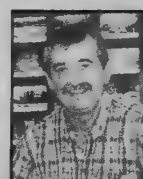
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Don't be missed...

Once again we are preparing our Annual Wedding Planner

If any of the following apply to you and you would like to loan us an original wedding photograph for possible publication, please call The Echo today. Space is limited.

1. You were married in Haliburton County between Jan. 1, 2004 & Dec. 31, 2004
2. You will be celebrating your 25th Wedding Anniversary between Jan. 1, 2005 and Dec. 31, 2005 and live in Haliburton County.
3. You will be celebrating your 40th or more Wedding Anniversary between Jan. 1, 2005 and Dec. 31, 2005 and live in Haliburton County.

from this day Forward

We are requesting your original Wedding Photos for publication in our upcoming issue.

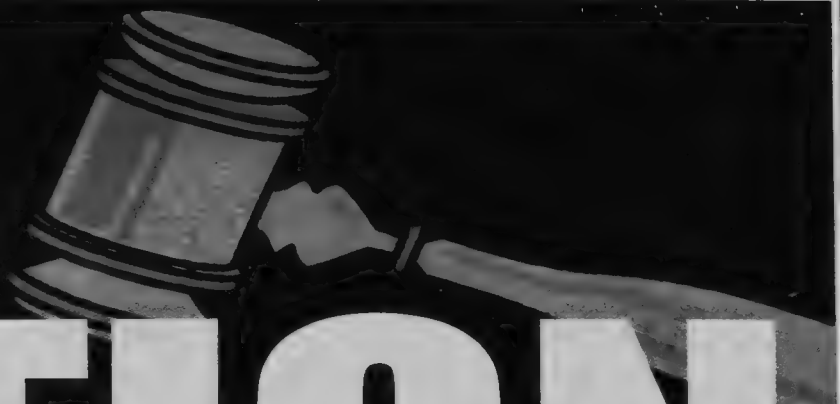
All submitted photographs for consideration must be received at The Echo office no later than January 21, 2005.

For more information call The Echo 457-1037



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CA

110 FIREWOOD/TREES

DRY FIREWOOD FOR SALE at Dunloe Farm, West Guilford, \$75/face cord, delivery available. Call 754-3034.

140 REAL ESTATE

INCOME PROPERTY - very private duplex in quiet area of Haliburton, close to hospital and schools, large decks overlooking pond and mature trees, \$169,900. Call 448-1292.

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150 COMMERCIAL SPACE

COMMERCIAL SPACE - Downtown, 1,200 sq. ft., excellent location. Call Jim 457-2921. Available Dec. 1/04.

CA

PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACE - For lease, Hwy. 35, Minden, approx. 2,500 sq. ft. Call 286-2994.

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PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SPACE for rent. Upper level Halco Plaza. Call 457-3166 for details.

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160 FOR RENT

2 ROOMS AVAILABLE - in a 2 bdrm. apartment in town, close to college and laundry, shared accommodation, heat and hydro included, no smoking, no pets. Call 457-4068.

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BEAUTIFUL FURNISHED WINTER COTTAGE on Mountain Lake. Available till mid June 2005. \$900./mo. + utilities (negotiable) Call 457-9434.

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ROOM FOR RENT - In shared household. Female non-smokers only please. Close to college. Call 455-9160.

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160 FOR RENT

ROOM WITH A VIEW of Lake Kashagawigamog. Private picturesque setting. \$400./month. Available Jan. 1st. Call 457-5392.

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180 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY - Haliburton Village. Full service gas station and retail tires sales in high traffic area. Well established business with commercial property included for sale. Owner retiring. Excellent as family business or investment. Prime location. For details call 754-9081 or visit the website, www.haliburton-gasstation.com

CA

200 HELP WANTED

A GENERAL CONTRACTOR located in Haliburton is seeking an experienced Accounting Clerk. The ideal candidate will be comfortable in completing a full cycle multi-company accounting process: Including General Ledger account analysis, bank reconciliation's, recurring journal entries, accruals, A/P and A/R, as well as Government filing requirements. Additional duties as assigned. Ability to multi-task is essential in this fast paced environment. Experience with QuickBooks, Microsoft Word and Excel, are requirements. We are also looking for someone with a minimum of 3 years working experience and related studies in an Accounting background. Please submit your resume along with your remuneration requirements by January 7, 2005 to: Box "W", c/o The Haliburton County Echo, Box 360, Haliburton, Ont. K0M 1S0, E-mail: haliburtonsmith@yahoo.ca

CA

200 HELP WANTED

240 CAREERS

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Build an employment portfolio!

For details & to find out if you qualify

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Contact **Sharyn** 457-2020



Senior Administrative Assistant

Patient News Publishing is looking for an energetic individual to join our client services department. The ideal candidate will have a minimum of 4 years experience in a business setting, with excellent verbal and written skills. An organized multi-tasker, you will have an eye for detail, and computer experience including Internet, Word and Excel. Customer service and sales experience an asset. Motivated and enthusiastic? Apply today - we're scheduling interviews this week.

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270 HEALTH & FITNESS

STEP IT FITNESS 12 Week Winter Session - Begins Jan. 3rd. Noon and evening classes with Step/Weight/Ball. Certified Instructors. Pilates classes evenings Monday/Thursday. Certified Pilates Instructor. Call 457-1052 Ext. 205, for info.

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270 HEALTH & FITNESS

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(Minden & Haliburton)
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Train 'n Tone; Light Activity Fitness;
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290 COMING EVENTS

BUNNYRABBIT

JACKRABBIT PROGRAM
CROSS COUNTRY SKIING
for children ages 4 to 13 years.
Saturdays, Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29 and
Feb. 5, 12
1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
Fee - \$18.
Glebe Park.

CA

RAZZAMATAZ KIDS' SHOWS!

presents
The Funky Mamas
"Music for Families"
Sunday, January 9, 2005
2:00 p.m.
Northern Lights Pavilion.
\$8. Adults, \$6. Children
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Amy Klose 457-4266
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Haliburton

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NO BINGO
WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 5TH

SEE YOU ON
WED. JAN 12TH
HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY
& THE BEST IN THE
NEW YEAR.
The Bingo Committee

290 COMING EVENTS

TAKE NOTICE
that the
Annual General Meeting
of the
Haliburton Highlands Performing Arts Society
will take place on
Wednesday, February 2, 2005, at 4:00 p.m.
at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion.
Memberships for the current year can be purchased at the door.
Agenda available upon request.
Call Linda Beachli at 457-1011.

CA

300 ANNOUNCEMENTS

DID SANTA FORGET?? - If you didn't find a Highlands Summer Festival season pass in your stocking Christmas morning, there is still time to get one at pre-Christmas pricing. Until January 15, you can purchase a season pass for only \$60. ... give yourself a gift of four great shows for the price of three. The 2005 line-up includes: The Perilous Pirate's Daughter; If We Are Women; The Affections of May; and Dances with Wolfgang. Season passes are now on sale at The Storeroom in Minden, Cranberry Cottage in Haliburton or call the box office at 457-9933 for more information. Don't forget, this offer ends January 15.

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340 AUCTIONS/FLEA MARKETS

WHITE'S AUCTION SALE
Sat., January 8, 2005 - 10 a.m.
Sale to be held at White's Auction Centre. From Bancroft take Hwy. 28S approx. 9 kms to Paudash School Road (Follow the Signs).
Sale to consist of a remote Lazyboy (Lifts you to standing position), dressers, tables, chairs, chesterfield, desk, ent. unit. Many more items too numerous to mention. **White's Auction Service. Oscar White - Auctioneer.** Phone: (613) 339-2350, Fax: (613) 339-1572, E-mail: whites.auction@sympatico.ca; Website: www.whitesauctions.ca

CA

400 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE LLOYD ALEXANDER BAKER
All creditors and others having claims against the Estate of LLOYD ALEXANDER BAKER, late, of the Township of Dysart, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 1st day of December, 2004, are required to file the particulars of such claim with the undersigned solicitor for the said Estate on or before the 11th day of January, 2005.
AND TAKE NOTICE that after the last date named, the assets of the said Estate will be distributed amongst the persons entitled hereto by the Estate Trustee of the Estate, having regard only to the claims of which the solicitor below shall have notice.
DATED at Haliburton, Ontario this 15th day of December, 2004. RAYMOND G. SELBIE, Barrister, Solicitor, P.O. Box 186, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0.

CA

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COMING EVENTS

TORONTO RV SHOW - January 20-23 - Toronto Congress Centre, Dixon and Hwy 27 at the airport. Admission \$5.00, Family \$10.00 - FREE parking. SEE MORE 2005 Recreation Vehicles. Visit www.rvshowtoronto.ca for more details.

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RUN YOUR OWN BUSINESS - Country Depot, TrueValue Hardware, V&S Options Dealerships available. New & existing locations. No Franchise Fees - receive Yearly Dividends. Call TruServ Canada TODAY - 1-800-665-5085. www.truserv.ca

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KELSEY TRAIL TRUCKING flat decks Canada-wide needs independent and Leased Operators, Company Drivers. Company Drivers also needed for Log Haul season in Alberta. All positions filled by January 5th. Top rates paid. Michael. 1-800-465-8782.

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ADVENTUROUS CAREERS TEACHING ENGLISH begin with professional training. A 5-day certificate course will be offered at Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, 440 Albert Street on January 26-30 (Open House January 4) & in Kingston at St. Lawrence College February 16-20 (Open House January 6). To register for the Open House CALL 1-888-246-6512. www.INTLcollege-oflinguistics.com

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PERSONALS

Are drugs and alcohol affecting your life? Information about treatment services is available. Call the **DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT INFORMATION LINE (DART)** toll-free, 1-800-565-8603. www.dart.on.ca

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440 THANK YOU

THANK YOU – Your generous outpouring of love, care and concern during my recent illness is greatly appreciated. Thank you everyone for your calls, cards, flowers and visits. Thanks to all the caregivers who were there when I needed them. Special thanks to my wife, Joan, my family, our neighbours Bill and Gail Scott and my nephew Larry Blanchard. Your love and support has made my recovery much easier. Thanks again, **Gerald Irish.**

450 IN MEMORIAM

BILLINGS, NORA – In loving memory of a dear mother, grandmother and great grandmother who passed away November 16, 2001. God took her home, It was his will. But in our hearts She liveth still. Love always **All the Family.**

**Put the
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to work for you!**

460 OBITUARIES

**AT REST
HELEN BETTY (nee Loscombe)
COX**
Passed away peacefully at
Extendicare Haliburton on
December 28, 2004.
In her 77th year.

Beloved wife of Albert Cox. Dear mother of Betty and her husband Jim Howes of Brantford, Edward and his wife Debbie of Minden and predeceased by her son Fred (May 6, 1999). Loving grandmother to Jonathon, Dennis, Joey, Lesley and Robert. Fondly remembered by her sisters Dorothy Briedas, Reta Bloomfield, and by her United Church Family. Friends were invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St., Minden on Wednesday evening from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. Then to the Minden United Church for the Funeral Service on Thursday, December 30, 2004 at 11:00 a.m. Reception followed at the Church (downstairs). Spring interment at the Ingoldsby Pioneer Cemetery. Memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Society, Haliburton County Home Support, or to SIRCH Community Hospice would be appreciated by the family.

CA

460 OBITUARIES

LYMBURNER, PERCY (Resident of Haliburton, Ontario) – Peacefully with family by his side at Extendicare-Haliburton on Sunday, January 2, 2005 in his 87th year. Survived by his loving friend Ruth Bain. Loving father of Betty Dachyshyn of Alberta, Elmo (Nona) of Haliburton, and Carol (Al) Spracklin of Alberta. Dear grandfather of Angela (Isaac) Brannigan, April and Harold Lymburner, Dean and Elaine Dachyshyn and Anne Dixon, Deb and Denise Spracklin and Robert, Todd and Cheryl Perry and nine great grandchildren. Fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by brother Bert and sisters Nona and Margaret. Forever fondly remembered by the Bain family. Friends may call at the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME, Hwy. #118 Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Tuesday, January 4, 2005, 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Funeral Service in the Chapel on Wednesday, January 5, 2005 at 1 p.m. As expressions of sympathy donations to the Alzheimer's Society, the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or Extendicare would be appreciated by the family.

CA

community calendar

What's happening in the Highlands

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CURRENT EVENTS

- **Jan. 6: L.I.F.T. Ladies In Fellowship Together** – Speaker: Donna-Lee Sisson; Precious Memories: Janet Bottum, Alzheimer Society, Haliburton; Music: Shirley Gajdos. Thurs., Jan. 6th, 7:30 - 9:30, West Guilford Recreation Centre. Wheelchair accessible. Information call Lyn 457-3155 or Alice 754-2808.
- **Jan. 10: Alzheimer Society Support Groups Haliburton.** Monday, January 10, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., Hyland Crest Meeting Classroom in Minden. Please call Janet Bottum at the Alzheimer Society Office 457-8335 to register.
- **Jan. 12: Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild** meets at 1 p.m. at Camp Adelaide. Guest speaker Sharon Middlehurst. New members welcome.
- **Jan. 14: Alzheimer Awareness Month** – The Alzheimer Society of Peterborough and area presents: Author and Alzheimer Caregiver Marian Ritchie who will discuss her book "The Long Way Home" A Journey through Alzheimer's. Fri., Jan. 14, 10 a.m. - 12 noon at the Haliburton Highlands Fish Hatchery, County Rd #1, Haliburton. This event is free of charge. Donations will be gratefully accepted.
- **Jan. 25: Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild** invites all fibre artists (weavers, rug hookers, knitters, etc.) to join them for a drop-in work session at Club 35 at Hall's Lake. Bring a project to work on and a brown bag lunch. Share ideas and friendships. Small admission. Everyone welcome.
- **Jan. 27: Alzheimer Society Support Groups Haliburton.** Thurs. Jan. 27, 10 a.m. - Noon. Caring with Confidence being held at Haliburton Home Support office. Please call 457-2941 to register.

ON GOING EVENTS

- **Haliburton Seniors Club** meet every Thursday at noon at the Haliburton Legion, Br. 129. Sandwiches and goodies. Every 2nd Thursday is Potluck.
- **The Ontario Early Years Centres** in Haliburton and in Minden will now be open Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Drop-in for crafts, circle time and fun activities for children ages 0-6. Free toy and book lending library. Call 286-1770 or 457-2989 for more information.
- **Meditation and Qigong** – We gather the first Sunday morning of every month. Qigong is 9:45 - 10:15, Meditation is 10:30 - 11:30. For more info call Lynda Shadbolt at 457-3121.
- If you are a senior (55+) or a physically disabled adult (18+) and like to play cards, Home Support offers Contract Bridge every Monday afternoon at 1 p.m., Bid Euchre is offered every Thursday afternoon at 1 p.m. and Cribbage is offered every Friday at 1 p.m. If you would like more information on activities available through Home Support, please call Ida at 457-2941.
- **Haliburton Highlands Prostate Cancer Support Group** monthly meeting. Held the 3rd Tues. of every month at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge Highland Crest Senior Citizen's Home in Minden. For info. call Rick Ratcliff 286-6699.
- **Every Wednesday:** Gooderham Branch, Haliburton County Public Library. Story circle at 11:30 a.m. on Pine St., in downtown Gooderham. 457-2241 or 447-3163.
- **Women's Basketball** takes place on Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. in the Highschool gym. Players of all skill levels are welcome. For more info call Emma at 457-2506.
- **Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 636, Minden** holds its General Business Meeting on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., except for the months of January and February.
- **Do you enjoy euchre, bridge, and other card games?** Come to the Card Night at the Fort Irwin's Residents' Assoc. Hall (FIRA) on Tuesday evenings from 7-9 p.m. For more info call Ken Fuller at 754-3699.
- **Attention Parents and Caregivers!!** Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death and serious injury to children of all ages. Make sure your children are traveling safely and your car seats are secure and properly installed. Call the local Health Unit at 457-1391 to make an appointment with a trained car seat technician today! Car Seats Save Kids Lives.
- **Want to get acquainted with the Internet?** Need help finding your favourite topic on-line? Book an Internet appointment at the Dorset Recreation Centre! The Community Access Program's Internet facilitator is available to assist you Tuesdays 9-5, Wednesdays 9-5, and Saturdays 10-4. Call (705) 766-9968 or E-mail drc@vianet.on.ca and get surfin'!
- **TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** meets on Mondays at the Home Support Office (Halco Mall). Weigh in 9:30 - 10 a.m. followed by a meeting until 11 a.m. For further information please call Donna Medland 754-4464 or Judy Carpenter 489-3027.
- **Ontario Breast Screening Program** - for women 50 years and over, screening by appointment only on Thursdays and Fridays at Ross Memorial Hospital. No doctor referral necessary. Call (705) 328-6175.
- **Haliburton County Home Support** is looking for items for their on-going Treasure Table. Remember that Home Support will take your used items for their fundraiser Treasure Table. Call 457-2941 for more info.
- **Did you know that Haliburton Home Support** has delicious, nutritious frozen meals available anytime right in their office in the Halco Plaza. These frozen meals can also be delivered right to your door, anywhere in Haliburton County every Thursday morning at no charge. Drop in and pick up a menu. This service is available to seniors 55+ and physically disabled adults. For info. call 457-2941.

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to editor@haliburtonecho.ca., or brought in to the office. **Please submit events by the Thursday prior to the requested publication date.**
NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events in the Highlands.

If you really want to sell
that
Snowmobile, ATV,
Stove, Fridge,
Truck or Car:
Don't keep it a secret.
Let your friends and
neighbours know!
Advertise in
The Echo Classifieds.

THE DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIEDS
is

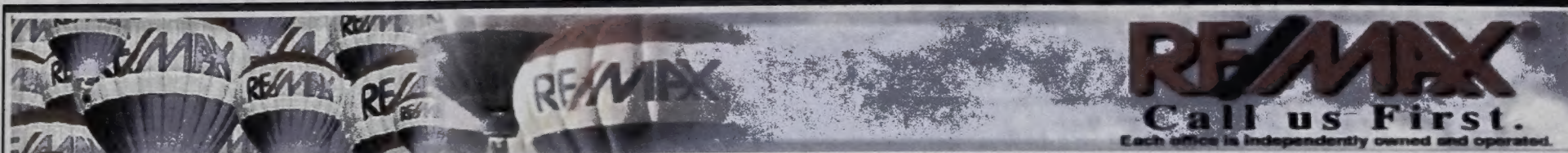
Friday at 5 p.m.

...

Fax us at 457-3275

OR

Phone us at 457-1037



457-1011
1-800-465-2984 • HALIBURTON

286-2911
1-800-567-1985 • MINDEN

754-2300
EAGLE LAKE

754-4242
KENNISIS LAKE

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www.remax-haliburtonhighlands.com



Troy Austen*
Linda Baumgartner*
457-1011

LOCHLIN HOME
Great 3 bedroom starter/retirement home, eat-in kitchen, large LR, 4 pce bath, basement w/rec room & storage rm, laundry/utility rm, septic, dr well, centrally located.

\$138,000



HALIBURTON LAKE

4 season w/ cottage/home, west exp, big lake view, 3 bdrms, living rm, 5 pce bath, large deck, full w/lo bsmt w/rec rm & workshop, 200' rock shoreline, dr well, septic, FAE.

\$289,900



Julie Gray*
457-1011

KENNISIS LAKE
Spectacular big lake view is possible from this densely treed lot that features a gorgeous sand beach in a grt. bay of prestigious Kennisis Lake. Spac. & bright 3 BR home/cottage w/eat-in kitch. DR, 2 ensuites, cath. ceilings, FP, main flr family rm, laundry rm, double carport. Priced to Sell!

\$299,000



WENONA LAKE

This charming & immaculate, 3 BR, well insulated, chalet has freshly painted int. walls, sanded pine floors, new carpeting & underpad, new appliances, new rear porch & 2 BR w/lo to decks. Cozy up by the airtight in the winter or wander over to the deeded access lot for a swim. 15 min from town. It's a winner!

\$129,900



Rosalind Bagg*
754-2300

SILVER EAGLE RESORT
Sun rise to sun set - Spring, Summer, Fall, & Winter - This resort has it all! 14 yr. md. housekeeping cottages, restaurant snack shack, marine gas & docks. Extraordinary opportunity as is, or developmental options. All on the shores of Eagle Lake...Doesn't get any better!! Come and see!! Call Rosalind Bagg.

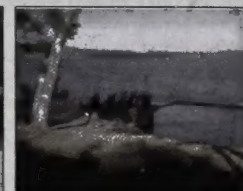


Bill Kulas*
286-2911

GLENGARRIAN RESORT
Sited on pristine, crystal clear Halls Lake. Looking for that perfect lifestyle change? Then this may be your dream come true in 2005! Over 430 feet of fantastic lakefront with an unbelievable view. Charming main lodge with four self-catering cottages. Turn key condition and all fully equipped.

Asking \$499,000

Call Bill Kulas today for your personal inspection at 286-2911 ext. #44. Check out the virtual tour at www.billkulas.com.



Ken Barry**
457-1011

DOVERS SPRING RD.
Beautiful 3 bedroom home with master ensuite, 2400 sq ft plus full basement, attached & detached garage, & over 30 acres. Excellent value!

\$229,900



HUNT CAMP/CABIN
100 acres with approximately 800 sq ft building on property. Very private setting, close to Haliburton, abounding with wild life.

\$99,900

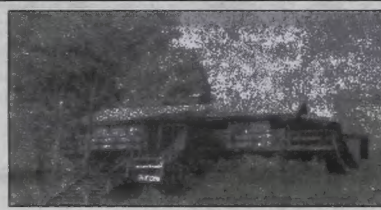


Geoff Bunn* & Miranda Newman*
457-1011

BONHAM LAKE

Extremely private 1.76 acres with over 1600 feet frontage with a beautiful sand beach. The cottage is full of old country charm. Many possibilities. For more information, call Geoff Bunn & Miranda Newman.

\$699,900



Fred Chapple*
286-2911

MAPLE LAKE

Cute and cozy 2 bedroom cottage, new roof, decks, bathroom, siding and plumbing. Comes fully furnished. Has sunroom and a golden sand beach on this pristine lake. Call Fred Chapple.

\$149,900



Deb Deremo*
457-1011

SNOWMOBILERS DREAM

Fully winterized, south facing 2 bdrm cottage on year round municipal road. Located in quiet bay, gently sloping lot leads to beautiful sand beach. Cedar interior, stone fireplace, lots of decking. Don't miss out, call Deb!

\$289,900



"MOVE RIGHT IN"

New 3 bdrm home featuring open concept, hardwood flrs, master w/ensuite & walk-in closet, wood FP, full unfn bsmt, 2 car garage w/breeze-way. Private, landscaped 2 acre lot w/western exp off lg verandah. Call to view today!

\$279,500

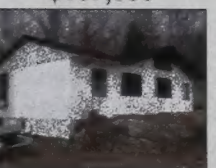


Victor Disik*
286-2911

START HERE

Very warm & clean 2 BR home on over an acre with easy access to lakes, trails & town. Large out building for storage or workshop. Ask for Victor Disik.

\$107,000



EVERYTHING A LAND BARON SHOULD HAVE

Over 400 acres. Two - 2 car garages, a 3 BR, 1320 sq ft dwelling w/lo full basement, granite, fireplace & sunroom, oil heat & air conditioned, also backs onto about 2000 acres of Crown Land. Ask for Victor Disik.

\$449,000



Vince Duchene**
457-1011

EXCELLENT & AFFORDABLE

Building lots very close and within walking distance of a gorgeous public park between 2 lakes - Big and Little Glamour. Almost waterfront.

\$14,900

MISKWABI BACK LOT

\$22,900

1 acre lot, level in nature, year-round access and part ownership in a waterfront lot on Miskwabi Lake steps away. All the same benefits as being on the lake for 1/2 the price.



Tom* & Gail* Tempest*
286-2911

PRIVACY PLUS

1400 sq ft of main flr living space w/lo full unfinished walkout basement. Situated on 100 acres, no road noise, wildlife galore & beautiful surroundings. Well built raised bungalow, hardwood & ceramic flrs. Wrap around 3 sided porch. Call for all the details.

\$295,000

MILBURN ROAD

Cute as a button year round home or four season cottage. Steps to Drag River, Crown Land & major snowmobile trail. Modern kitchen, loads of pine. Shows pride of ownership. Move-in condition.

\$74,900



Elizabeth Thompson*
457-1011

LAKE VIEW COUNTRY HOME

Spacious! Spotless! Secluded! 4 bdrm brick & cedar Viceroy-2500 sq ft in area of fine homes. Ideal for entertaining. Watch the sunsets over the lake from sunken fam rm & solarium kit. Formal LR/DR, fr doors, cath ceilings, cent air, cent vac. new roof in 2004. Close to Haliburton Village...Call Elizabeth.

\$299,900



Ted Vasey*
457-1011

KASHAGAWIGAMOG LAKE ACCESS

2800 sq ft brick home, hand crafted custom oak kitchen, centre island plus w/lo to deck, granite foyer, broadloom & oak floors, 3+1 bedrooms, MBR ensuite with jacuzzi, cedar hot tub rm, 2 family rms, garage 26'x28', quanset hut 18'x20', large front & rear decks, approx 13 ac of privacy. Much, much more.

\$359,000



Lenor Fulton*
Tracy Ackerblade*
286-2911

MAIN STREET MINDEN

Are you looking to start a business in Minden??? This Main Street location has many possibilities. It boasts a 3 bedroom apartment upstairs with a separate entrance. This cute as a button store is zoned C-1. Look no further and call Tracy or Lenor.

\$173,000



ACREAGE ON MINDEN LAKE

With 465' of frontage on Minden Lake and 8.48 acres of grassland & red pines, this property features southern exposure. Call Lenor or Tracy.

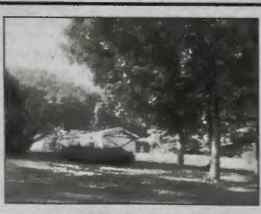
\$129,900



Linda Beachli***
457-1011

HOME, POOL & INCOME
Lovely large bright 5 bedroom, 3 bath home with fully finished playroom & pool with a separate 3000 sq ft income suite. All on manicured 4.5 acres & Head Lake. Linda Beachli/Peter Brady 457-1011.

\$699,000



MONROCK LAKE

Lovely year round very private home. Good level waterfront & loaded with extras! Fireplaces, sauna, bunkie. Hurry to move in! Linda Beachli/Peter Brady 457-1011

\$215,000



NEW HOME ON CTY. RD. #21
Large bright two storey home ready for your finishes and home business near Pinestone. Adjacent commercial corner lot! Linda Beachli/Peter Brady 457-1011.

\$189,900



Peter Brady**
457-1011